

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

TEAM

NEXT STOP: RUSSIA

NEW FACES, OLD STARS, HIGH HOPES SI's MEDAL PICKS

THE CLOUD OVER PUTIN'S GAMES

ALEXANDER WOLFF



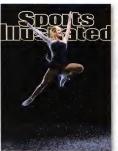
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PREVIEW



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FOR THE FIRST TIME SI HAS FOUR DLYMPIC PREVIEW COVERS, ALL AVAILABLE ON NEWSSTANDS CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Gracie Gold, Mikaela Shiffrin, Bode Miller,

Jamie Anderson and Arielle Gold PHOTOGRAPHS BY SIMON BRUTY/SI





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Digital Now.

Super Coverage

As the countdown begins to Super Bowl XLVIII on Sunday, the world will be talking about much more than the temperature at kickoff. Will the NFL's best defense (Seattle's) stifle the league's best offense (Denver's)? Can Peyton Manning & Co. silence Richard Sherman and the Legion of Boom? Check out SINow-Sl.com's daily live talk show hosted by Maggle Gray-at 1 p.m. EST for complete coverage, including roundtable conversations with SI writers and quests such as Joe Montana (16), Dan Marino (13), Marshall Faulk [2B] and Alfred Morris [46]. Go to St.com/slnow

SICOMMENTARY



Rookie Diary I got a lot of texts and

tweets from friends about my missed dunk on Blake Griffin, Honestly, it wasn't as had as it looked. I had a running start and he bumped me just enough that I didn't get to the rim, so I ended up just trying to get it there. Unfortunately. as you can see, I didn't. All my teammates are still talking about it, joking about how high I was. He's Blake Griffin and I'm a rookie, so I'm not going to get the benefit of the doubt on that call. You win some, you lose some. You're going to get dunked on, you're going to dunk on someone. Maybe 10 years from now people will look at that nicture and think I did throw it down. Read more of Zeller's Rookie Oiory ot Sl.com/nba

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SISWIMSUIT



to get ready for SPORTS ILLUSTRATEO'S 50th anniversary Swimsuit Issue, which comes out on Feb. 18? With a two-hour special looking back at the first half-century of Swim. Sports Illustrated Swimsuit: 50 Years of Beoutiful, hosted by 199B cover model Heidi Klum, airs on NBC on Feb. 3 at 9 p.m. EST/PST.

RISTNOSTARS

U.S. speedskater Heather Richardson (page 94), who won the 2013 World Sprint Championships and the 500-, 1,000- and 1,500-meter events at the 2014 Olympic trials, is one of this week's six Rising Stars, all bound for Sochi. To see their videos, go to Sl.com/risingstars



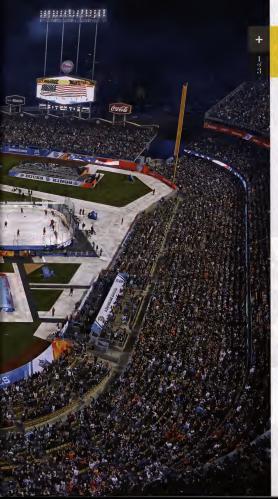
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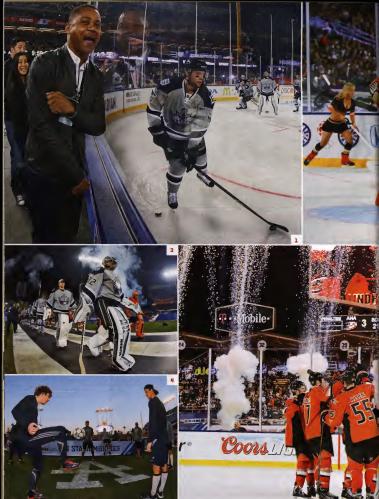
Leading

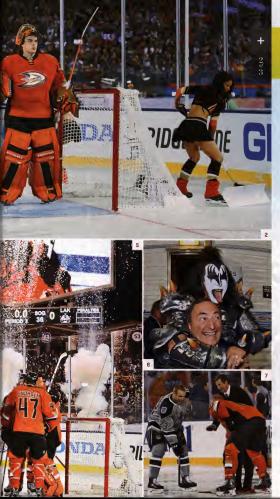
Hockey in Hollywood

Sitting by the glass at the start of the game between the Ducks and the Kings at Dodger Stadium last Saturday night, even Wayne Gretzky was impressed by the scene that went along with the NHL's first attempt at outdoor hockey in a warm-weather climate. "Oo you really think [original L.A. owner] Jack Kent Cooke would have imagined 40 years ago that we'd have hockey in front of 50,000 people at Dodger Stadium with fans arriving early and going crazy like this?" he asked. "Our game is really blessed these days."

Is it ever. And not just because the second outdoor game of 2013-14 marked the Great One's first public appearance on behalf of the NHL since he and the league reached a nearly \$8 million settlement in December to end a four-year dispute over money Gretzky was owed from his days with the Coyotes. One year removed from a bitter lockout, the NHL has rallied with a stellar 2013 postseason, a \$5.2 billion deal in November with Rogers Communications for Canadian broadcast rights and a slate of six outdoor games this season that it predicts will gross a healthy nine figures. "There are challenges in taking our game [from] its closed environment and exposing it to the elements," says commissioner Gary Bettman, "but . . . we feel

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN W. MCDONOUGH SPORTS ILLUSTRATED





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Leading Off

the risks are outweighed by enormous benefits." The NHL likes to tout

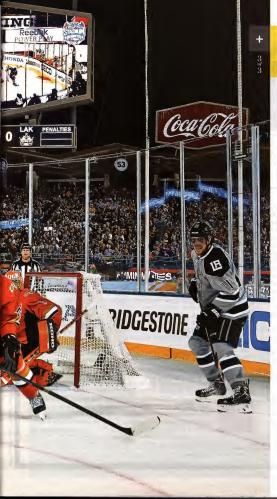
al fresco hockey as a way to connect with the game's origins, but romantic notions aside, outdoor hockey is a marketing powerhouse, one that's wildly popular with fans. "This game has generated more interest over five, six days for us than when we won the Stanley Cup [in 2012]," says Luc Robitaille, the Kings president of business operations. The Dodger Stadium game-a sellout, with 54,009 fans in the standsincluded a red carpet for celebrities. Olympians playing beach volleyball in leftfield and Kiss playing "Rock and Roll All Night" on a stage in right. It also featured some decent hockey. The game-time temperature was 63°, and by almost all accounts, the ice wasn't bad for Anaheim's 3-0 victory. "We felt like rock stars," said Ducks defenseman Ben Lovejov. "We're not. We're simple hockey players. But for one night that was so cool."

Contrast that with the game the Rangers and the Devils played 15 hours later at Yankee Stadium, where the windchill was in single digits, the cracking ice drew scorn from both teams and the contest was delayed for an

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROBERT BECK SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

- 1 Cuba Gooding Jr. end Lise Ling
- take in warmups 2 ice girls work behind Ducks goalle Jonas Hiller
- 3 The teams teke the field et Dodger Stedium
- 4 Some Anaheim pieyers werm up with soccer
- 5 Oucks celebrate victory 6 Gene Simmons and Bettman 7 Gretzky drops the puck





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Leading Off

hour because of the glare of the sun (though the sold-out crowd of 50,105 didn't seem to mind). Originally told the delay would be two hours, New York goalie Henrik Lundqvist lay down for a nap. Roused from his slumber, he promptly gave up three first-period goals. The Rangers nevertheless scored four in a snowy second period for a 7-3 victor.

Despite the hiccups, outdoor games have been embraced by players. Lovelpy was a healthy scratch on New Year's Oay 2011, when his former team, the Penguins, hosted the Capital as at Heinz Felid. "Missing that game just killed me," he recalls. His grizzled teammate Teemu Selanne, 43, said, "It was a great career highlight... Not too many times you catch yourself just looking around during a game."

Including the Maple Leafs' 3-2 shootout victory over the Red Wings in the Winter Classic at Michigan Stadium on New Year's Day, the first three outdoor games this season have drawn close to 210,000 fans. Now the challenge for the NHL is to pull up short of the saturation point at which the novelty of outdoor hockey could dissolve. The league says that it will not have six outdoor games every season-but there's a good chance that it will put on more than just the traditional Winter Classic in future years. Says Bettman, "There is no shortage of interest from teams that want to be a part of this." Little wonder.

Brian Cazeneuve

PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERT BECK SPORTS ILLUSTRATED



Do you agree? Oliver 'Bushy' Lines He's up there

Rick Stamper Anybody ever hear of a guy named Larry Bird?

Jon Hathaway He's no Reggie Miller.

> TWEET OF THE WEEK

Everyone calm down about the [Team USA] opening in retirement homes across America knitted those for

his life chronicled by someone as

I enjoyed Michael Rosenberg's forward spin on the A-Rod saga (POINT AFTER). Another thing to watch out for? How many years before A-Rod does a Lance Armstrong 180 and finally admits what a liar and cheat he really was.

I loved L. Jon Wertheim's story on the now defunct Danbury Trashers. Every time the Trashers played my hometown team, the Muskegon

Fury, it was a night to remember due to Danbury's physical style of play. Thanks for bringing back so many fond memories of watching UHL hockey. May the league rest in peace.

Cory Sander, Muskegon, Mich.

-1875

The apple-faced sage with

Dinna hurry the swing, keep

Leon S White, Lexington, Mass.

Lee Jenkins's excellent article on

Damian Lillard (The Oak Edge)

might have been enhanced with

a sidebar on McClymonds High

in Oakland. The number of pro-

fessional athletes who attended

McClymonds is quite impressive,

including Antonio Davis, Curt

Flood, Jim Hines, Vada Pinson,

His nostrum for all,

Your e'e on the ball.

Sports Education

Trashing the Ice

I don't think we should be glamorizing the Trashers' organization (This Hockey Mogul Was 17. Got a Problem With That?), which had a team owner who condoned violence, intimidated other owners and who bragged about his team's boorish behavior, saying, "You need a wild card. So we decided we would beat people into submission. Like Mike Tyson in his prime." That type of behavior degrades hockey and sports in general.

Dan Drebes, Brookings, Ore.

Reading about the Trashers made me think that some television network out there could use the team as the basis for a new TV show called Puck Dynasty.

Robert Carr, East Lansing, Mich.

Golfing Poetic

Your Ode to Oz was nice to see (SCORECARD), but golf makes for better poetry. Where else could you find in a single verse advice so true and vet so terse:

I find it hilarious that a week after writer Andy Benoit wrote that Patriots running back LeGarrette .

Blount "might be the most average runner vou've ever seen," you feature Blount on the cover. Dan Dillon





Frank Robinson, Bill Russell and Paul Silas. Bob Sherwood, Pound Ridge, N.Y.

A-Enigma It's a shame that Richard Ben Cramer died without being able to crack his toughest subject and finish his book (The Puzzle That Couldn't Be Solved). With Alex Rodriguez's obvious narcissism and the endless controversies that followed him throughout his

career, he should have been ecstatic at the opportunity to have Letters E-mail Stat letters@St.timeinc.com or fax Stat 212-467-2417, Letters should include the writer's full name, address and home telephone number and may be edited

Kevin Durant called Stephen Curry "the best shooter to ever play."

Not sure if he's No. 1, but he's definitely up there.

Best oure shooter, ever.

Christopher Boyne He may not even be the best shooter on his own team.

ceremony outfits. Grandmas Lolo Jones (@lolojones)

highly esteemed as Cramer. Mike Perricone, Copiague, N.Y.

C Dovle, Cullman, Ala.

CONTACT

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The Sochi Olympics were supposed to celebrate

a country remade-a chance for the hosts, as organizing committee communications chief Alexandra Kosterina put it 15 months ago, "to break stereotypes about old and cold Russia." In keeping with the arriviste character of a Games built entirely from scratch, organizers did for a while seem determined to construct not so much a cluster of venues as a series of TV soundstages for an 18-day infomercial. But if there's

Host-ilities

Instead of a "new Russia," the politically charged, terror-threatened Sochi Games are reviving memories of the country's past

BY ALEXANDER WOLFF

a "New Russia" anywhere between the palm trees of the Black Sea coast and the snowpack of the northwestern Caucasus, it has been difficult to detect. Consider the litany of antimodern themes to emerge around these Games since Russia

won them in 2007. The initial estimated cost has quadrupled to a recordshattering \$50 billion, onethird of which, IOC member Gian-Franco Kasper recently alleged on Swiss TV, has been lost to bribery. In the Krasnodar region that includes Sochi, bands

of paramilitary Cossacks, looking every bit the 18th-century part, mete out rough justice that's barely this side of vigilantism. with a particular eye for ethnic minorities. President Vladimir Putin arbitrated the carving up of Sochi construction projects among Russia's oligarchs in much the same way medieval rulers once played referee to the aristocratic hovars who threw their weight around the Grand Duchy of Muscovy. (Vladimir Potanin delivered the Alpine center; Boris and Arkady Rotenberg

built the power plant for the ice venues: Vladimir Yakunin supervised the 31-mile highway and rail link between the coast and the mountains that. at \$9.4 billion, cost more than the entire 2010 Vancouver Olympics.)

And state-sponsored intimidation has a cold war feel: Last year the government launched probes into some 1,000 nongovernmental organizations operating in Russia to determine which should be considered foreign agents, while the foreign ministry has been denving visas to or evicting foreign journalists.

Like few others, this

Olympics has been the work of one man. Three years ago Putin bent to his will a nationwide vote to choose the Sochi mascots. (He wanted, and got, the snow leopard among the three.) In August he signed a decree banning all demonstrations against his regime or its human rights record in Sochi during the Games, After protesting illegal deforestation around Olympic construction sites, one Russian activist wound up in prison and another fled to Estonia to avoid arrest. Putin's attempts at magnanimity, such as the release of two imprisoned Pussy Riot members and Kremlin critic Mikhail Khodorkovsky, only serve as reminders of the abuses that landed them and others in jail in the first place.

But the regime's targeting



Despite Putin's nre-Games lockdown, two suicide bombers have struck Volgograd since December. including

one on a bus.

of what it calls "propaganda of nontraditional sexual relations," ostensibly to protect young people. is drawing the most international condemnation. especially as Putin has breezily lumped homosexuality in with pedophilia. In response, Western governments will keep a head of state home or, as the U.S. will do, stack its official delegation with gavs and lesbians. Some athletes are weighing whether to display the number six, in solidarity with Principle Six of the Olympic Charter. which bars discrimination. It's unclear if the IOC or the Russians will tolerate even this gesture, or whether Olympians who want to make a stand will have to exile themselves to the designated protest zones set up far beyond the athletes' villages.

Agents of the Federal Security Service (FSB), the successor to the KGB that Putin once ran, will be tasked with keeping the Sochi Games safe from the threats of terrorists. It will be hard to begrudge them if they succeed, but legal protections essentially no longer exist in the restive North Caucasus. and over the past several vears an advanced surveillance regime has become entrenched throughout Russia. This System of Operative-Investigative Measures, or SORM, is capable of monitoring phone calls, emails, social networks and the Internet at large without having to engage phone companies or ISPs as middlemen. With every would-be spectator required to upload in advance personal details, including a photo, to a Sochi 2014 website, it's little wonder that the sale of tour packages is lagging and some 30% of tickets remained available as of mid-January. Once the Olympic

tend to write the narrative. And that's how Sochi might actually deliver. The 2014 program features a record dozen new events. most of them telegenic spectacles like team figure skating, a coed luge relay, freestyle skiing halfpipe and women's ski jumping-the same discipline that Kasper, the IOC panjandrum, once dismissed as "not ... appropriate for ladies from a medical point of view." Indeed, women's ski jumping is an anti-Putin twofer, subverting both his retrograde ideology and machismo in, literally, one fell swoop.

cauldron is lit, the athletes

But unless some basic freedoms-say, the ability to proclaim one's sixual orientation, as it wereextend to Sochi's venues and squares, the world won't think of the Olympic city as that place where Cannes meets Davos. The capital of the Russian Riviera will, rather. come off as something much more prosaic and uninviting: Moscow in the 1970s, old and cold.

Awarding the Winter Olympics to a city with a subtropical climate, scant winter sports facilities. proximity to restive ethnic republics and a global recognition factor of zero was, If nothing else, a bold move. Vladimir Putin's assurances of a compact Games (mountain and coastal venues 30 minutes apart), ample snow and all-new facilities swaved the IOC. Now comes the test. Few visitors may out to sightsee in a city under terrorist threat, but the IOC can still hope that Sochi's famed Friendship Tree, a grafting experiment that produces 45 types of citrus fruit, can

yet become the unlikely symbol of these improbable Olympics.







FISHT OLYMPIC STADIUM | The \$600 million, 40,000-seat roofed arena [named for a mountain in the Caucasus] will host ceremonies and anchor the Olympic Park cluster in Adler; in 2018 it will serve as a World Cup soccer venue.

■ BOLSHOI ICE COME | NHLers and 38,000 colored LED roof lights will light up the site of the hockey finals.

ICEBERG PALACE | Icy blue glass panels give this figure skating and short-track speedskating venue its name.





PROTEST ZONE | No critical placards or gatherings are allowed except in a designated park in isolated Khosta. A Russian government permit also will be required.

MOSQUITO FISH STATUE | Tribute to a tiny species introduced in the 1920s to eat mosquito larvae and end the then-swampy city's rampant malaria.

WAX STALIN | Figure can be viewed at the 5'4" dictator's favorite dacha, open to tourists.





SANKI SLIDING CENTER | To avoid a repeat of the 2010 Games, when Georgian luger Nodar Kumaritashvili suffered a fatal crash, the track has two uphill sections to slow sledders.

■ RUSSKI GORKI SKI JUMP | Women's event will debut at a venue plaqued by mudslides and construction problems.

ROSA KHUTOR | Ten Alpine gold medals will be won on the Bernhard Russi-designed courses [top altitude: 7,600 feet] at this \$2.2 billion resort; extreme sports will be held nearby.



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life opens up with a healthier mouth





Six-time Olympic biathlete, 40, needs one medal to tie Games record of 12, set by Bigrndalen X-C skier and countryman Norwov Biorn Daehlie in 1990s.



Two-time halfpipe champion, 27, could be first U.S. male Winter Olympian to threepeat (also trying to medal in slopestyle, page 74].



Thirty-three-yearold ex-National Guardsman hopes to be first U.S. bobsled Holcomb driver to repeat as gold medalist since 1932.



Alaska native, 31, the 2012-13 World Cup sprint champion, could be first American to win a gold medal in cross-country skiing.



Turin champ, Vancouver runner-up and surprise Sochi pick, 31, could be second figure skater Plushenko to win medals at four Russio Olympics in a row.



Underappreciated 2002 halfpipe champ, hetter than ever at 30, hopes to be first woman to win three snowboarding medals



Four-time medalist, 31, aims to be first male speedskater to threepeat [1,000 meters]; if Shaun White falters, could be first U.S. man to do so.



Upstate New Yorker, 32. a 2013 world runner-up, could be first American to shoot and ski his way to an Olympic biathlon medal.



Returning moguls gold medalist, 27, is attempting to become first freestyle skier to win an event more than once.



At 41, Deutschland's most decorated Olympian (nine medals) could be her sport's Pechstein first four-time event Germony winner (5,000 meters).



Seven-time Olympian. 41, who won World Cup event in January, hopes to become the first ski jumper older than 29 to Jopon win an individual gold.



Alltime great luger, 40. will try to win medal for sixth straight Games, a feat never accomplished by any Olympian, Winter or Summer.



medals in Summer

and Winter Games.

HIGHLY LIKELY GOOD CHANCE

SOME CHANCE

NOCHANCE

Sochi By the Numbers

Winners whose gold medals will contain fragments of the large meteor that struck Russia

last Feb. 15; the special medals will be handed out for finals held on the one-year anniversary.

Times the torch went

out (by conservative estimate) during a 40,300-mile relay that took it to the North Pole underwater in Lake Baikal and into space.



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It's been 78 years since the U.S. has taken Olympic gold

in the two-man bobsled. The U.S. came out on top in the Games' first two-woman event, in 2002, but have had to settle for silver and bronze since then.

To give American drivers such as Steve Holcomb and Elana Meyers the best chance of winning in Sochi, the U.S. bobsled federation decided to revamp its sleds with help from a company

known as much for luxury as for speed: BMW. The company's creative design director, Michael Scully-no stranger to winter sports, having once been a Burton-sponsored snowboard racer-spent more than two years working with U.S. coaches and athletes to create sleeker, more efficient twoman and two-woman sleds.

The differences between the new sleds and the older models

include lighter materials. better aerodynamics and more effective weight distribution. Neither the athletes nor the engineers will reveal much more. Says Scully, "Those are things that we need to respect from a confidentiality standpoint. because at the end of the day what makes the sled faster will ultimately prove to be the best tool for the athletes." -Anastassia Smorodinskaya

PAIRS



Slap Happy Lugers The Wild Slide

One of the quirkier new events will be the luge relay, in which a female slider, a male slider and a men's pair ride down the track in succession. Each one must sit up and slap an overhead timing pad faptly described by the Los Angeles Times as "uvula-shaped") at the bottom to open the start gate for the next relay member. It sounds kooky, but this season the event has proved to be a fan favorite, with crashes, false starts and unpredictable finishes.

How It Works Team Figure Skating

A surefire TV hit among the 12 new events in Sochi is team figure skating, which debuts on Feb. 6 and continues for three nights of prime-time kiss-and-cry. The event pits 10 teams in short and long programs. Teams earn 10 points for first. nine for second and so on in each program. Lineups are TBA, and teams can change up to two entries for the long program, but here's how the numbers might add up.













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Wide World of Stories

The competitors in Sochi will include a prince and a violinist BY ANASTASSIA SMORODINSKAVA



MOST UNLIKELY CROSSOVER

ANNA SIOOROVA. Russin Russia has never suffered a shortage of winsome female athletes. But in a nation of cover-model snorts stars such as Maria Sharapova. Anna Kournikova and Anna Semonovich. the winner of recent Russian online polls to name the country's

most beautiful athlete has been. surprisingly enough, a curler, Sidorova, 22, a Moscow native, turned to curling after a leg injury ended her figure skating career at age 12. Ever since she made her Games debut as a lastminute replacement in Vancouver (where she was the youngest skip at the Games), she has shown up on seemingly every "hottest Olympians" list. All that aside. Sidorova rocks as an athlete: She led Russia to the European title in 2012.

MOST MUSICAL VANESSA VANAKORN Thoiland



Better known to music fans as Vanessa-Mae, the British-based Vanakorn, 35 (a lifelong skier who's using her Thai father's last name while competing in the slalom in Sochil is a renowned violinist. At 13 she set a record as the youngest soloist to record concertos by Beethoven and Tchaikovsky. She then began fusing her classical repertoire with pop and techno on more than a dozen albums. Accustomed to turning heads with her alluring outfits and racy photo shoots, Vanakorn will race in comparative anonymity as one of Thailand's two Olympians.

RAREST EXPAT VIC WILD . Russia

After falling in love with and marrying Russian snowboarding champ Alena Zavarzina in 2011, Wild, a native of White Salmon. Wash., gave up his spot on the U.S. snowboarding team, obtained Russian citizenship and began riding for his wife's country. In Sochi both he and she will compete for medals in the new Olympic event of parallel slalom, Russia's coach has already credited Wild, 27, with raising the level of performances on his newly adopted team.



MOST BELOVED

JAMAICAN BOBSLED TEAM Ending a 12-year Games absence, the crowd favorites will return in a two-man sled driven by four-time Olympian Winston Watts, Watts, 46, had retired, moved to Wyoming and taken an oil-field job in 2010. when he was persuaded to try a comeback. Having raised the funds to go, he and pusher Marvin Oixon, 28, will be the most welcome sight in Sochi.



MOST INTERESTING

HUBERTUS VON HOHENLOHE, Mexico The Oos Equis man has nothing on this Mexican-born, Spanish-raised, Austrianbased, Andy Warhol-influenced German prince, pop singer, photographer,

businessman, five-language polyglot and six-time Olympic slalom skier who loves wild racing suits. (His 2010 outfit bore images of pistols and bondoleros.) In Sochi, von Hohenlohe will turn 55 and become the second-oldest Winter Olympian in history. What'll he wear? A mariachi-themed outfit.



SIGN OF THE APOCALYPSE

In a promotional deal, Tonga's first Winter Olympian. luger Fughea Semi. legally changed his name to that of a German underwear company. Bruno Ranani.



"I cannot forecast to you the action of Russia. It is a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an eniama."

Winston Churchill, 1939



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° Pharmacy Times Surveys, Acid Reducer/Heartburn Categories, 2006 – 2013. ° Édic cilculation based on Nielsen ScanTrack FD+, 2004 – 2013.
° Potent Samily, Inc., 2013 FID-12559.

She's a Winner, By George

A picture, we're often reminded, is worth a thousand words, but apparently it can also be worth 375 words and some heavy beats. At least that's the case for Lorde, the 17-year-old singer who on Sunday took home two Grammys-including song of the year-for her megahit "Royals." The song was inspired by, of all things, a picture of Hall of Fame third baseman George Brett. whose career ended three years before Lorde was born in the baseball hotbed of Devonport, New Zealand, In the photo, which appeared in National Geographic in 1976, Brett is surrounded by autograph-seeking fans. Don't try to read too much into the lyrics. though: "His shirt said. Royals," Lorde explained to VH1. "It was just that word. It's really cool."



Chloe Kim | La Palma, Calif. | Snowboarding

Chloe, an eighth-grader at La Palma Christian School (who, at 13. is too young for Dlympic competition) finished second to Dlympian Kelly Clark in back-to-back halfpipe events in Mammoth Lakes, Calif., to finish second overall in Sochi qualifying. Last week Chloe earned silver during her first X Games appearance, in Aspen, Colo.



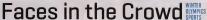
Colin White | Hanover, Mass. | Ice Hockey

Colin, a sophomore forward at Pioneer High in Ann Arbor, Mich., where he trains with the national development program's under-17 team, led all skaters in points (1D goals, eight assists) in six games at the World Under-17 Hockey Challenge in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, He scored in the title game to help the U.S. beat Canada's Team Pacific 4-0.



Amber Glenn | Plano, Texas | Figure Skating

Amber, an eighth-grader at Texas Virtual Academy, placed first in both the short program and the free skate at the U.S. championships in Boston to earn the junior ladies' title. In October she won bronze at the Junior Grand Prix in Ostrava, Czech Republic, Amber, who trains at the Dallas Figure Skating Club, will compete at junior worlds in March.



→ | Edited By ALEXANDRA FENWICK



Steve Baskis | Verona, Wis. | Paralympic Nordic Skiing

Baskis, 28, who lost his vision in an IED blast six years ago while serving as an Army infantryman in Iraq, and who has been skiing for only nine weeks, completed the visually impaired biathlon and 10K crosscountry skate race at his first national championships, in Midway, Utah. He skis with a guide and shoots a sound-guided laser rifle in biathlon.



Alexis Keeney | Virgil, N.Y. | Freestyle Skiing

Keeney, a 2013 graduate of Colorado, won the first-ever women's slopestyle freeskiing title at the World University Games in Trentino, Italy, in December, scoring B2.60 points to beat Fabienne Werder of Switzerland by 17.40. In January '13, Keeney, who works as a ski instructor and restaurant hostess, won the Winter X Games rail iam in Aspen, Colo.



Paolo Borromeo | Los Angeles | Figure Skating

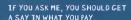
Paglo, a sophomore at California Virtual Academy, won the national men's novice title in Boston. He was first in the short program and free skate, at which he earned a record 114.20 points. Paolo almost missed his short program when his scheduled taxi never showed up. His mother flagged down a passing driver, who gave them a ride.

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Just My Type

→ Interview By DAN PATRIC

DAN PATRICK: Everyone's saving, "Omaha! Omaha!" these days. WARREN BUFFETT: [We sav]. "Peyton, Peyton, Hike!" DP: Are you a Broncos fan? WB: I am a Broncos fan. DP: Where will you watch the Super Bowl? WB: This year I'm going to be out in California visiting my friend Bill Gates. I'll probably watch it there. DP: When you go to Bill Gates's house, what's the first thing you notice? WB: You'd see some Cherry Coke on the kitchen counter that he has for me. I just hang out in the kitchen. I don't wander around to all the other rooms. DP: People pay to have lunch with you. Who would you pay to have lunch with? WB: Do you think Sophia Loren is available? [Laughs] DP: What's the biggest mistake people make when it comes to money? WB: Not learning the habit of saving early, and then trying to get rich quick. It's pretty easy to get wellto-do slowly. But it's not easy to get rich quick. DP: What are you trying to get out of the NCAA tournament challenge? WB: I'm writing an insurance policy. Quicken Loans is looking to get lots

of national exposure. I'm looking to either earn a profit for my premium or pay out a billion dollars. I don't think that you need to ask me which one I hope happens. DP-Have you ever considered buying a team?

WB. I was a water boy for the Washington Redskins

WARREN BUFFETT
MAD MONEY
Berkshire Hathaway's
CEO is insuring a s1 billion
prize from Quicken Loans
for anyone who fills out
a perfect tournament
bracket for March
Madness. The B3-yearold Omahan is reportedly



for two games, I thought if I ever had a lot of money I'd buy the Redskins. DP: Washington fans would love for you to buy the team right now. WB: I don't know whether [Dan Snyder] would sell. Sammy Baugh was my hero in those days. DP: Are sports teams a good investment? WB: They're kind of like art: They go up in value because there's a lot of rich people who want to own one. There's more rich people than there are teams, so they compete for them. Some teams don't make much money, as you know. If you've got a lot of money, what are you gonna do with it? Some people buy art, some people buy houses, some people buy boats. I invest, but I'm different. DP: What athlete would vou invest in? WB: LeBron [James], He's got staying power. He's smart. He gets better all the time. I would love to have a piece of him. But he's too smart to sell it to me. DP: How much money do you have in your pockets right now? WB: Right now I have about \$200. But I'll tell you this: At the end of the day I'll have \$200.

Guest Shots

Say What?



Even after 19 games against Peyton

Manning, former Titans and current Rams coach Jeff Fisher can offer no advice on how to stop him. "It's like playing a video game," Fisher told me. "You're playing a computer. You have to play honest or he'll take advantage of you."... Packers linebacker A.J. Hawk admitted he and committed he and committed he and want to go you."...



was a bad host when QB Aaron Rodgers

visited him in Columbus, Ohio, after the season. "It was so lame," Hawk seld. "I have two young kids. He's in the guest room sleeping in. My daughter's banging on his door because she loves to play with him. He didn't get



portrayed bad guys in movies, Ice Cube

controversy Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman has created: "The sports world needs a villain to go against Peyton Manning. The media is happy (Sherman] did it, but they have to put on a face like he shuldfo'f have done it.'





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What's in a name? Maybe wishful thinking. Perhaps a foreshadowing. Sometimes

a marketer's dream.

America's new Olympic skating princess isn't named Gracie Fourth Place. When she hits the ice in Sochi, even Gracie Gold knows the headline potential. "Hmm, Golden Girl, Good as Gold, Gold Rush. Gracie Gets Goldthose are some of my favorites," she said last month after winning the U.S. championships in Boston, "I can see it."

To be fair, the 18-yearold's peak may be four vears away, and Gold will face stiff competition in Sochi, including returning Olympic champion Kim Yu-na of South Korea, but a podium spot isn't out of reach. Gold brings style, flair and-here comes the name again-grace to the ice. That she can already see winning headlines in her future is a testament to the moxie that got her here in the first place.

Go back a year, to the 2013 nationals in Omaha. where Gold was in ninth place after flubbing her short program but rallied to finish second after a superb free skate. She had never been on a national podium as a senior skater. but at the press conference afterward she sat with third-place finisher Agnes Zawadzki and victor Ashlev Wagner and told reporters, "I want to congratulate these two women because they are amazing and they push me. They skated great short programs and really

A PERIODIC LOOK AT SOME OF THE MOST INTRIGUING RISING STARS

BIGBDARD

FIGURE SKATING

Say Hello, Gracie

The new U.S. champion has the look. and even the sound, of a winner

BY BRIAN CAZENELIVE



good long programs and they deserve to be here with me." That was a hasty comment from an excited teen catching her first glimmer of the spotlight, but the implication was on the table: It was Gracie's world now.

EVEN AS A young child, Gold loved performing. When she spotted a passing parent from the living room, she would throw her arms back and shout. "Watch me! Watch me!" before unleashing a series of cartwheels. She was seven when she went to a friend's ice skating party in Springfield, Mo., and came home wanting more. Her parents, Denise and Carl, started her in skating lessons within days.

Gracie's fraternal twin, Carly, took up the sport four months later, Carly has generally been a step behind her sister on the ice; she missed reaching this year's nationals by one place at a sectional qualifier. But the two were equally dogged in their constant household competitions. Who could run up the stairs faster? Throw a ball farther? Braid her hair and brush her teeth quicker? "I had to bake better cookies than she did," Gracie says. "That's just how I was."

To facilitate their daughters' skating, Denise and Carl moved the family multiple times. The twins have lived or trained in half a dozen cities, from Boston, where they were born, to El Segundo, Calif., where they live now. At one point





Ted Ligety U.S. Olympian - Alpine Skiing

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Denise was driving the girls five hours each way to train in Kansas City, Mo., before the Golds moved from one Springfield (Mo.) to another Springfield (Ill.) to switch coaches. The girls have taken online classes exclusively since their sophomore vear of high school. "It gives me the flexibility to jump from skating to homework based on my schedule," says Gracie, who'll graduate in June.

Denise was at first leery of her daughter's singlemindedness about skating. "Gracie is very hardwired," her mother says. "Once the levels became more demanding, her friends would drop out and I'd remind her that this was going to end someday. She would just say, 'What? What do you mean?' "

In 2010, Gracie took fourth in the national novice division, and senior-level success was within reach. But she had a nearly five-inch growth spurt over the next year (she's now 5' 6") and found her jumps going off-kilter. She struggled to learn new skills, "When improvements didn't come," she says, "I would iust get mad at myself and make things worse."

Carly had seen it before. "Even with essays and art projects, Gracie would work on them exactingly until she felt good about them, even if I couldn't see anything wrong," she says.

Carly thinks her sister's high expectations help explain her short-program blunders a year ago in



Omaha. "It was all nerves, the expectation of being out there," Carly says, "In the long program she had a nothing-to-lose mentality. She was more relaxed."

In September, looking to improve further, Gold left coach Alex Ouriashev, a two-time Ukrainian men's champ, and moved with her mom and sister from Illinois to El Segundo to train with Frank Carroll, the mentor who guided Evan Lysacek to a gold medal in Vancouver and Michelle Kwan to four world titles.

With little time to prepare Gold for U.S. nationals, the 75-yearold Carroll went to work on her skating and her outlook. Even though the season had already started. Carroll took the short program she had worked on for several months and tossed it into the trash. As he put it, Gold's jazzy Gershwin tune, "Three Preludes," sounded like "fighting cats." Hoping to give Gold something

to become a young lady [and] a serious contender who deserves to be rewarded for maximizina her abilities," says Carroll, Gold's new coach.

more sophisticated, he worked with her on a short program set to a piano concerto by Edvard Grieg.

"It was like taking two grades in one year at school-a lot to learn." Carroll says, "Judges were looking for her to grow up, to become a young lady [and] a serious contender who deserves to be rewarded for maximizing her abilities." Carroll has seen many emerging skaters skate through rather than to their music, causing them to lose connection with the rhythm and pace as they wait for the next jump. During a layback spin, Carroll would remind Gold, "Don't be afraid to he elegant." He created a free skate program around Tchaikovsky's "Sleeping Beauty" that could be a hit with the crowd, especially a Russian crowd.

Carroll also worked on Gold's head, "She needed to understand how to mess up," he says, "She could be too demanding on herself when she missed a jump. She'd have a triple flip in front of her and she'd be thinking about the Lutz combination she missed a minute ago. We emphasized what could be better next. not what just went wrong."

The test of calm came during the long program in Boston last month, when she scraped the ice with her hand during a crooked triple flip but went on to land two more triple jumps flawlessly. "A year ago, I don't think she could have done that," says Carly.

Gold has one bit of anxiety remaining. She admits to being awed by the Olympic champion. Kim, "She's so smooth," Gold says, "She isn't just piecing jumps together; she has one complete program where everything flows together. It's beautiful and that's how I want to skate."

At last year's worlds in London, Ont., where she finished sixth, Gold happened to enter a restaurant where Kim, the champion, was eating, She wanted to approach her idol for a photo. "I was too chicken," she says, "Do I want to be a fan like that? Eh."

Gold would prefer to engage Kim while both are on the podium, perhaps in Sochi, "It would be so cool to find the cameras first," Gracie says, "and tell her, 'Yu-na, look over there.' "

It would be, shall we say, a Golden moment.

TAKE STEPS WITH BELVIQ®

What is BELVIO®?

BELVIQ is an FDA-approved prescription weightloss medication that, when used with diet and exercise, can help some overweight* adults with a weight-related medical problem, or obese adults, loss weight and keep it off. It is not known if BELVIQ when taken with other prescription, over-the-counter, or herbal weight-loss products is safe and effective. It is not known if BELVIQ changes your risk of heart problems, stroke, or death due to heart problems or stroke.

*Overweight (body mass index [BMI] of 27 kg/m² or greater) with at least one weight-related medical condition, such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or type 2 diabetes; Obese (BMI of 30 kg/m² or greater).

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- Valvular heart diseases: Some people taking medicines like BELVIQ have had heart valve problems. Call your doctor right away if you experience trouble breathing; swelling of the arms, legs, ankles, or feet; dizziness, fatigue, or weakness that will not go away; or fast or irregular heartbeat. Before taking BELVIQ, tell your doctor if you have or have had heart problems.
- Changes in attention or memory: BELVIQ may slow your thinking. You should not drive a car or operate heavy equipment until you know how BELVIQ affects you.
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- Low blood sugar: Weight loss can cause low blood sugar in people taking medicines for type 2 diabetes, such as insulin or sulfonylureas. Blood sugar levels should be checked before and while taking BELVIQ. Changes to diabetes medication may be needed if low blood sugar develops.
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- Decreases in blood cell count: BELVIQ may cause your red and white blood cell counts to decrease.
- Increase in prolactin: BELVIQ may increase the amount of a hormone called prolactin. Tell your doctor if your breasts begin to make milk or a milky fluid, or if you are a male and your breasts increase in size.
- Most common side effects in patients without diabetes: Headache, dizziness, fatigue, nausea, dry mouth, and constipation.
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For more information about BELVIQ®, talk to your doctor and see the Patient Information on the reverse side.

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‡Restrictions apply.

IMPORTANT PATIENT INFORMATION

Read the Patient Information that comes with BELVIQ® (BEL-VEEK) (lorcaserin hydrochloride) tablets before you start taking it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This page does not take the place of talking with your doctor about your medical condition or treatment. If you have any questions about BELVIQ, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

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BELVIQ is a prescription medicine that may help some obese adults or overweight adults who also have weight related medical problems lose weight and keep the weight off. BELVIQ should be used with a reduced calorie diet and increased physical activity

It is not known if BELVIQ is safe and effective when taken with other prescription, over-the-counter, or herbal weight loss products

It is not known if BELVIQ changes your risk of heart problems or stroke or of death due to heart problems or stroke.

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BELVIQ is a federally controlled substance (CIV) because it contains lorcaserin hydrochloride and may be abused or lead to drug dependence. Keep your BELVIQ in a safe place, to protect it from theft. Never give your BELVIQ to anyone else, because it may cause harm to them. Selling or giving away this medicine is against the law.

Who should not take BELVIQ?

Do not take BELVIO if you:

· are pregnant or planning to become pregnant, BELVIQ may harm your unborn baby.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking BELVIQ?

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- · have or have had heart problems including:
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 - heart valve problems
 - slow heartbeat or heart block
- have dishotos
- · have a condition such as sickle cell anemia, multiple
- myeloma, or leukemia · have a deformed penis. Pevronie's disease, or ever had an
- erection that lasted more than 4 hours
- · have kidney problems
- · have liver problems

should not do both.

- · are pregnant or plan to become pregnant
- · are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if BELVIQ passes into your breastmilk. You and your doctor should decide if you will take BELVIQ or breastfeed. You

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements BELVIQ may affect the way other medicines work, and other

medicines may affect how BELVIQ works. Especially tell your doctor if you take medicines for

depression, migraines or other medical conditions such as: · triotans, used to treat migraine headache

- · medicines used to treat mood, arrolety, psychotic or thought disorders, including tricyclics, lithium, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), selective serotoninnorepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs), monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs), or antipsychotics
- · cabergoline
- · linezolid, an antibiotic
- tramadol . dextromethorphan, an over-the-counter medicine used to treat the common cold or cough

- · over-the-counter supplements such as tryptophan or St. John's Wort
- · medicines to treat erectile dysfunction

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for a list of these medicines, if you are not sure.

Know all the medicines you take. Keep a list of them to show your doctor and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

How should I take BELVIO?

- . Take BELVIQ exactly as your doctor tells you to take it. . Your doctor will tell you how much BELVIQ to take and when to take it
 - Take 1 tablet 2 times each day. - Do not increase your dose of BELVIQ.
- BELVIQ can be taken with or without food. . Your doctor should start you on a diet and exercise
- program when you start taking BELVIQ. Stay on this program while you are taking BELVIQ. . Your doctor should tell you to stop taking BELVIQ if you
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What should I avoid while taking BELVIQ?

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What are the possible side effects of BELVIQ? BELVIQ may cause serious side effects, including: Serotonin Syndrome or Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome (NMS)-like reactions, BFI VIQ and certain

medicines for depression, migraine, the common cold, or other medical problems may affect each other causing serious or life-threatening side effects. Call your doctor right away if you start to have any of the following symptoms while taking BELVIQ:

- mental changes such as agitation, hallucinations, confusion, or other changes in mental status
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- spasms, or muscle twitching (overactive reflexes) restlessness
- racing or fast heartbeat, high or low blood pressure
- sweating or fever
- nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea - muscle rigidity (stiff muscles)
- . Valvular heart disease. Some people taking medicines like BELVIQ have had problems with the valves in their heart. Call your doctor right away if you have any of the following symptoms while taking BELVIQ:
 - trouble breathing
 - swelling of the arms, legs, ankles, or feet
 - dizziness, fatique, or weakness that will not go away
 - fast or irregular heartbeat

· Changes in your attention or memory. . Mental problems, Taking BELVIQ in high doses may

cause psychiatric problems such as: hallucinations

- feeling high or in a very good mood (euphoria) - feelings of standing next to yourself or out of your
- body (disassociation) . Depression or thoughts of suicide. You should pay

attention to any mental changes, especially sudden changes, in your mood, behaviors, thoughts, or feelings. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any mental changes that are new, worse, or worry you

 Low blood sugar (hypoglycemia) in people with type 2 diabetes mellitus who also take medicines used to treat type 2 diabetes mellitus. Weight loss can cause low blood sugar in people with type 2 diabetes mellitus who also take medicines used to treat type 2 diabetes melfitus (such as insulin or suffonylureas). You should check your blood sugar before you start taking BELVIQ and while you take BELVIQ.

. Painful erections (priapism). The medicine in BELVIQ

can cause painful erections that last more than 6 hours. If you have an erection lasting more than 4 hours whether it is painful or not, stop using BELVIQ and call your doctor or

- go to the nearest emergency room right away. . Slow heartbeat. BELVIQ may cause your heart to beat slower. Tell your doctor if you have a history of your heart beating slow or heart block.
- . Decreases in your blood cell count. BELVIQ may cause your red and white blood cell count to decrease. Your doctor may do tests to check your blood cell count while you are taking BELVIQ.
- . Increase in prolactin. The medicine in BELVIQ may increase the amount of a certain hormone your body makes called prolactin. Tell your doctor if your breasts begin to make milk or a milky discharge or if you are a male and your breasts begin to increase in size.

The most common side effects of BELVIQ include: · headache

- dizziness
- fatique
- nausea · dry mouth
- · constipation
- . low blood sugar (hypoglycemia) in patients with diabetes

Tell your doctor if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away These are not all the possible side effects of BELVIQ. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects, You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

How do I store BELVIQ?

Store BELVIQ at room temperature between 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C) Safely throw away medicine that is out of date or no longer

Keep BELVIQ and all medicines out of the reach of children.

General information about the safe and effective use

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information leaflet. Do not use BELVIQ for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give BELVIQ to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them. This Patient Information summarizes the most important

information about BELVIQ. If you would like more information. talk with your doctor. You can ask your doctor or pharmacist for information about BELVIQ that is written for health professionals For more information, go to www.BELMQ.com Website or call

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What are the ingredients in BELVIQ? Active Ingredient: lorcasenn hydrochloride

Inactive Ingredients: silicified microcrystalline cellulose: hydroxypropyl cellulose NF; croscarmellose sodium NF; colloidal silicon dioxide NF; polyvinyl alcohol USP polyethylene glycol NF; titanium dioxide USP; talc USP; FD&C Blue #2 aluminum lake; and magnesium stearate NF. This Patient Information has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Rx Only

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What's the best way to get ready for the

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SPORTS ILLUSTRATED SWIMSUIT?

SPORS SWIMSUIT SO YEARS OF BEAUTIFUL

A two-hour TV special looking back at the first half-century of Swimsuit.

Join us for behind-the-scenes footage, photography from the cover shoots

and count down the top 10 Swimsuit covers of all time

HOSTED BY HEIDI KLUM

Appearances by Swimsuit icons Tyra Banks, Christie Brinkley, Kathy Ireland, Marisa Miller and Kate Upton

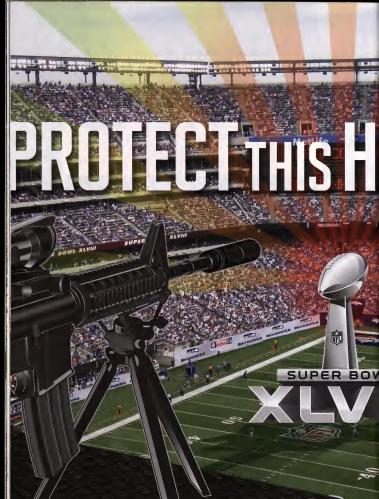
MUSICAL PERFORMANCES BY

Enrique Iglesias, Lady Antebellum, The Fray, John Legend and Tim McGraw

FEBRUARY 3 AT 9PM ET/PT



CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR AVAILABILITY





SECURITY OFFICIALS working on high-profile events on the scale of Super Bowl XLVIII face an increasingly long list of concerns. Where once they focused on preventing conventional acts of violence (think:

the Olympic Park bombing at the 1996 Summer Games), now they must also consider more unconventional threats, such as biological, chemical, radiological and even nuclear weapons. "You have Super Bowl security before 9/11," says one of more than a dozen security officials who spoke to SI about current and previous plans, "and then after 9/11."

It would be impossible to catalog all the protective measures that will be in place when the Broncos and the Seahawks kick off in East Rutherford, N.J. After all, secrecy is a hallmark of Super Bowl security, with various agencies working, cloak-anddagger, to keep specifics shrouded-sometimes even from one another. "You don't tell everybody your game," says another official with decades of federal security experience.

FROM X-RAYS AND K-9S TO BLACK HAWKS AND, YES, SNIPERS: INSIDE THE ELABORATE SECURITY PLAN FOR THE MOST HIGH-PROFILE EVENT IN AMERICAN SPORTS

RY THAYER EVANS Mustration by GUY STAUBER

This much we do know: The New Jersey State Police will serve as the lead agency on security at MetLife Stadium. That outfit has decades of experience at Giants and lets games (and also oversaw World Cup matches in 1994, including a high-profile semifinal). But the Super Bowl presents a unique challenge, and Col. Rick Fuentes, superintendent of the NJSP, admits that planning has been "a learning process"-one that has involved collaborating

with roughly 100 local, state and federal agencies, some of which have been preparing for nearly four years.

Of all the possible threats, the majority of those officials who spoke with SI are most concerned about the potential detonation of an improvised explosive device. "The process has holes in it," one official said of existing Super Bowl screening procedures. Another major concern is the possibility of a shooter taking aim at fans outside the stadium. In 2008, at Super Bowl XLII in Glendale, Ariz., a 35-year-old man with an assault rifle and 200 rounds of ammo drove to within striking distance of University of Phoenix Stadium, bent on shedding "the blood of the innocent" because he had been denied a liquor license for a bar he wanted to open. He ultimately changed his mind and turned himself in to authorities, but according to one SI source, the NFL didn't even know about that threat until the morning after the game.

Jeffrey Miller, the NFL's chief security officer, is confident that the security measures in place in New Jersey will snuff out any such incident. "All of the things that you would look at as vulnerabilities someone might try to exploit are things that are factored into [our] plan," he says.

But therein also lies a concern. As security experts who spoke to SI made clear: The greatest threats are the ones that haven't been anticipated.

SUPER BOWL NI PREVIEW

Illustrations by JASON LEE

DN THE GROUND

Observation Towers

Twenty-two-foot-tall manned posts-provided by U.S. Customs and Border Protection-are equipped with security cameras and air-quality monitors to detect chemical and radiological substances.



Threatening-looking Ballistic Engineered Armored Response Counter Attack Trucks for BearCats) are

mobilized in key areas inside and outside MetLife for use by SWAT teams in victim-recovery situations **FCC Enforcement Vehicles**



Antennaed patrol vehicles employ computer technology to detect illegal frequencies-both the kind used to illegally broadcast the game and the type used to wirelessly detonate explosive devices



Backscatter Vans

White box vans contain X-ray machines that can see through clothing, into vehicles and into some buildings to check for plastic or metal weapons, but particularly for explosives or nuclear weapons.



AROUND THE STADIUM

Fencina

Nearly two miles of eight- to 10-foot-tall chainlink fence creates an exclusionary zone extending 300 feet from the stadium's exterior. Typically operational two to three days before the Super Bowl.



Marine Vessels

Boats patrol backwaters and bridges near the stadium (and checkpoints are in place) in order to prevent attacks.



Weather Preparedness



In the event of inclement weather, B00 to 900 snowplows are available - or the game could be moved to Friday, Saturday or Monday. Officials also have a plan for handling a power blackout



Vehicle and Carga Inspection Stations

All transportation and deliveries entering the exclusionary zone must be on a manifest; they're screened for weapons and drugs, as well as biological, chemical, nuclear and radioactive materials. Cleared vehicles are escorted onward.



Parking

The exclusionary zone cut MetLife's car capacity by more than half (to some 12.000 snaces, which must accommodate 450 buses too). Vehicles allowed to park cannot leave until after the game. Individuals arriving by train or bus are screened by TSA and air marshals before boarding









IN THE SKIES



Helicopters

Provide surveillance, enforce a flight restriction zone and carry equipment capable of seeing in low light and of detecting heat. Black Hawks and state choppers are available to drop in SWAT teams.



Fighter Jets

Military aircraft wait on standby at nearby bases and can be on site within minutes.



Orones

Used by federal authorities for surveillance, the unmanned devices monitor MetLife and its surroundings, especially the swampy Meadowlands.



Temporory Flight Restriction Zone

The FAA establishes a ring around the area within 30 nautical miles of MetLife, up to 18,000 feet in altitude: here aircraft must I.D. themselves and state their flight mission. The ring's inner eight-mile radius is off-limits to all but preapproved aircraft.

OFF-SITE



Intelligence Operations Center

Undisclosed facility, five to 10 miles away, where federal law enforcement officials check security intelligence worldwide-a counterterrorism database, plus info from the NSA, TSA, FBI, and Customs and Border Protection-for signs of threats.



Decontomination Site

In the event of a biological or chemical attack, federal Hazard Mitigation, Material and Equipment Restoration teams deliver victims to these heated tents to be decontaminated and to receive medical care (or to be quarantined).



Secoucus Junction Rail Station

As many as 20,000 people are expected to use this train station on game day. Local police, firefighters and emergency management officials are trained to respond to an attack on the railway.



Electricity and Woter

The areas where both of these utilities tie into MetLife fall within the 300-foot exclusionary zone, but feeder plants for both are reinforced with beefed-up security.



Joint Operations Center & Public Sofety Command Post

The JOC, an interagency nerve center miles away from MetLife and run by the FBI, has camera views on the stadium and throughout New Jersey; this is where responses to threats and incidents are coordinated. Those first responders depart from the Command Post, located within blocks of the stadium.

METLIFE MEASURES



Security Comeros

Elaborate network of hundreds of devices inside the stadium and in key places outside (parking lots, perimeter roads). All are monitored at Intelligence Operations Center and Joint Operations Center.

-> Facial Recognition Softwore Cross-checks faces against federal directory. including highly classified U.S. counterterrorism database with info on known or suspected terrorists. Pictures of suspicious attendees (fans climbing fences, photographing security cameras) are added to this database

→ Intelligent Video Softwore I.O.'s suspicious movementa bag left unattended or a person walking away quickly from such an object-for potential bombs and alerts law enforcement, Similar software spots likely suicide bombers based on clothing and mannerisms.

K-9 Unite

Dogs and their handlers search outside MetLife for drugs, weapons and explosives on game day-that after an extensive facility sweep at least 24 hours before kickoff.



Protesters

Trained teams are equipped to easily cut handcuffs and chains off protesters who attach themselves to the exclusionary zone fence. Organizers of past Super Bowls have met beforehand with reps for potential demonstrators, such as the Teamsters and the Occupy movement.

Stadium Evacuation

Law enforcement officials have computer models indicating how long it would take to evacuate any seat and where that seat's ticketholder would be moved to shelter-inplace. Stadium personnel are trained to execute such an evacuation.



Chemical, Biological and Rodiological Air Manitars

Placed inside and outside the stadium, and along nearby streets, these devices alert law enforcement if abnormal substance levels are detected.



43-foot-long trailer has seven critical-care heds staffed with emergency physicians and nurses. plus an adjoining surgical suite.

FACES OF THE GAME



Expert Scientists Biologists, chemists and nuclear scientists at the JOC can test substances in a mobile laboratory. Nuclear Incident Response teams are available with aircraft on standby to deliver any substance to a national lab



Hazardous Materials and Bomb Squads Teams of local and federal

personnel (uniformed and plainclothes) carrying handheld meters discreetly check for and respond to biological, chemical, explosive and radioactive threats.



Anyone working inside

the exclusionary zone has undergone an extensive background check and wears a badge announcing his or her security clearance level. Only a select few officials are cleared to go anywhere at any time.



National Guard Soldiers can be called in for a mass casualty incident,

such as a bombing. Emergency-surgecapacity studies were conducted to determine how many victims local hospitals can treat.

Sniper Posts Security Screening Counter-snipers using high-powered rifles Select high-level officials aside, anyone entering man posts throughout MetLife, with teams MetLife must pass through one of 130 metal detectors staffed by law enforcement officials of two dividing the stadium into quadrants. Gunners don't look into their rifles' sights (not to mention X-ray machines, pat-down

unless a threat has been I.D.'d.

attendants and the K-9 teams).

SUPER STATS

\$11 MILLION

Approximate amount allocated by the NFL for Super Bowl XLVIII security preparations.

400,000

People expected to visit the area for the game.

20,000

People who will undergo background checks.

Private security guards and personnel, roughly, hired to work the game.

New Jersey state troopers who will be utilized.

Subcommittees that worked on planning SBXLVIII, ranging from security intelligence to traffic.



SWAT Teoms

Special tactical units respond to violent threats and are trained to handle simultaneous attacks, such as at hotels. Hostage and crisis negotiators are also on hand.



Ploinclothes Low Enforcement

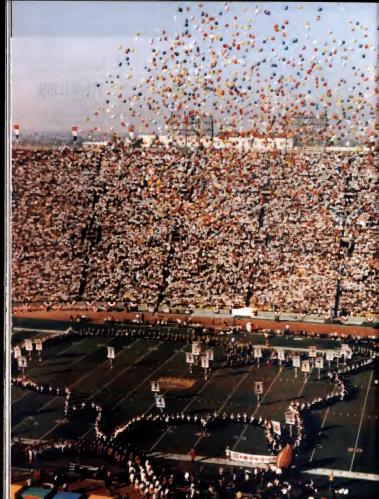
Undercover personnel-dressed like fans, carrying firearms-are scattered throughout the stadium, relaying potential threats to law enforcement centers.

Undercover Counterfeit Teoms

Dozens of plainclothes law enforcement officers, working with the NFL, have been trained to spot fraudulent merchandise and tickets.

Undercover Vice Teams

Plainclothes officers target prostitution and human trafficking. A cyber crimes team also monitors both on the Internet.





HOW A ORUM MAJOR KNOWN AS TOMMY THE TOE BEGAT THE BEST (BONO, JACKO, JAGGER) AND WORST (UP WITH PEOPLE!) SEGMENT OF SUPER BOWL SUNDAY:

THE HALFTIME SHOW

BY AUSTIN MURPHY Photograph by VIC STEIN/GETTY IMAGES



THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

Walker's first masterwork included marching bands from Arizona and Grambling State. Forty-three years later, at SBXLIV (above), what was new? Lasers, for starters,



LUCILLE WALKER was widowed 23 years ago and

never remarried. She's 78 now, and holding up well, though there was a touch of sadness in her eyes when she greeted a recent visitor at her home in Irvine, Calif. A documentary on her late husband had recently been scuttled. The director had stopped returning calls. Lawvers were involved.

As she leafed through old programs, telling stories about her husband, her spirits rose, She pointed to a 1986 Time magazine cover bearing a spectacular image of the Statue of Liberty, wreathed in pyrotechnics on the occasion of the monument's 100th birthday. Nobody did bright work like Tommy Walker, who produced that jubilee. There were a few snags. "The Secret Service said, 'Tommy, you can't put the fireworks there," Walker recalled, "And Tommy said, 'We are going to put fireworks there. We'll get Navy SEALs to patrol the waters at the base of the statue.' And that's where those fireworks went."

Three months later, Walker went in for his third openheart surgery. He died on the operating table. He was 68. "It's such a shame," his wife lamented. "Tommy gave his life for entertainment, And nobody knows his name."

It is a shame. Before the Dos Equis guy, Tommy Walker might have been the most interesting man in the world. In 1934 he performed in Berlin as an 11-year-old trumpet soloist and drum major in his father's American Legion band, Later, while starring in three sports at Black-Foxe Military Institute in Hollywood, he remained active in the academy's band but still

AFL and NFL champions, in 1967, Walker urged the young commish to cough up a few bucks for a glitzy halftime show, "Why would we spend all that money?" Rozelle shot back, "That's when everybody goes to the bathroom."

Walker was adamant that he could craft a spectacle so engaging that viewers would gladly postpone the call of nature. In the end he produced three such extravaganzas, for Super Bowls I, IV and VII. Even though those galas made up a

him: "Their armor is weak at the neck."

"The halftime show is the neck of the Super Bowl," says Robert Thompson, director of the Bleier Center for Television & Popular Culture at Syracuse. "It's where the broadcast is most vulnerable." He is speaking of the show's susceptibility to counterprogramming, such as in 1992, when Fox hijacked 20 million CBS viewers from Super Bowl XXVI's saccharine "Winter Magic" halftime with a riotPrecisely. For the NFL, the conundrum of annually choosing the performer is similar to a family-grandparents, parents. kids-trying to agree on one Las Vegas act to see, Don Rickles? Blue Man Group? The Mac King Comedy Magic Show?

"The aim is to engage as many generations as you can." says Mark Quenzel, Senior VP of Programming and Production for NEL Network "Entertaining everybody is a challenge, no doubt about it."

Actually, clarifies Thomp-







Instead, Walker became USC's band director. His peppy, whimsical halftime shows, featuring card stunts and pigeon releases, caught the eve of Walt Disney, who hired him in 1955 to stage the opening ceremonies for a theme park in Anaheim. Walker staved for 12 years at Disneyland, and many of its iconic flourishes-fireworks above the castle; Tinker Bell descending along a wire from the Matterhorn-were his

A master of pageantry and sworn enemy of subtlety, Walker was also a charismatic man whose wide circle of friends included Pete Rozelle, Before the first title game between the mere fraction of his oeuvrelike the sonnets of Shakespeare or the skateboarding medals won by Shaun White-Walker can still be described, accurately, as the Father of the Super Bowl Halftime Show. Considering the overhyped and often incoherent monstrosity into which that event has evolved. he almost certainly would have preferred that you not.

NTHE tense moments before the armies of Sauron storm the fortress of Helms Deep in The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers, it is the dashing archer Legolas who offers this advice to the bowwielding battalion around ous episode of In Living Color.

Thompson, who calls Super Bowl Sunday the most successful national holiday "since Lincoln gave us Thanksgiving," regards the big broadcast as "three parallel programs." The first is the game. The second is the "film festival put together by the advertising industry." Which leaves the neck, While the Super Bowl halftime may be the most-watched musical performance in the world most vears, Thompson says, "it is certainly not the most beloved."

David Hill, the longtime CEO of Fox Sports, describes the halftime show as "America's multigenerational entertainment for the year."

STAGE FRIGHTS Walker's wholesome vision (from left) and Jacko's bravura were undone by Janet's wardrobe malfunction.

After that, the NFL played it safe-McCartney, the Stones, Beyoncé. son, it's impossible. "If Tom Petty makes some people deliriously happy, plenty of other

people are asking, "Tom who?" " Petty was one in a series of six consecutive safe and familiar old-fart ensembles booked by a league still traumatized by the R-rated finale to the Super Bowl XXXVIII halftime show, in 2004. The camera that captured Janet Jackson's right breast that night after it was exposed by costar Justin Timberlake did so from a football field away. The offending boob was on air for all of a second. Yet that was long enough for CBS to get slapped with a \$550,000 fine from the FCC (later voided by the courts); long enough to stoke the outrage of politicians concerned about the moral decline in America. It was long



tude in creating their own halftime shows. (CBS had subcontracted this one to MTV, which was informed afterward that it would never work another Super Bowl.) Now, laments Hill. "the NFL chooses the artist, the producer, the director." Which is a shame, he adds, "because a lot of the fun of doing the Super Bowl is the halftime show and the lead-up to it." Minus that, "it's just another huge game,"

How would the league cleanse the nation's palate one vear after wardrobe malfunctured outside the category of Old Fogies Rock-and been rewarded for it. The Madonna halftime show two years ago stands as the most-watched ever (112.5 million viewers). Bevoncé came in a close second last February. On both occasions ratings edged upward as the teams broke for halftime.

In case you've been on a silent retreat in the Himalavas since last summer, Bruno Mars will top the halftime marquee on Sunday. At 28 he's younger than any headliner

But what if the aliens were already two steps ahead? What if they'd already infiltrated the Super Bowl halftime show? Seriously, how better to explain Up With People?

N AN impossibly tiny CBS set at Super Bowl X, host Brent Musburger has just handed off to Phyllis George, who is effervescing about the wholesome youths about to take the field, a chipper troupe whose talent level



"THAT'S WHEN **EVERYBODY GOES** TO THE BATHROOM," ROZELLE SAIO. POO-POOING WALKER'S HALFTIMF INFA.

enough to entice 35,000 new subscribers to TiVo, to inspire YouTube and to make "Janet lackson" the most searched name in Internet history.

Paul Tagliabue, then the NFL commissioner, went immediately into a prevent defense. Until Nipplegate the league had given the networks wide latimoney was on the aggressively bland ensemble Up With People, which had already performed at four Super Bowls. Concluding, apparently, that Americans had already suffered enough, Tagliabue signed off instead on 62-year-old Paul McCartney, whose raciest moment would come during "Get Back," when he sang of the "lowww-neck sweater" rocked by the "mommy" of one "Loretta." Subsequent halftimes showcased the Rolling Stones. Prince, Petty, Bruce Springsteen and The Who-a span that might fairly be described as AARP With People.

tion entered the lexicon? Early

The NFL has since ven-

in 13 years. But he and all the post-Nipplegate halftimers have this in common: They're chosen in hopes that their appeal might stretch, like one of Keith Richards's neck wattles. across multiple demographics.

Thompson remains underwhelmed, "People pay almost \$4 million for 30-second ads [during the broadcast]. This is the most valuable cultural real estate of the year. You've got a captive audience of over 100 million. And this is what they come up with? If I was trying to help an alien understand who we are as a nation, the last thing I would show them is a Super Bowl halftime"

falls somewhere between high school variety show and Waiting for Guffman. George emphasizes what a privilege it will be to hear "these great kids" produce "some of the greatest sounds in American history!"

That would prove to be a highly generous assessment of the ensuing performance. by Up With People, an admirably diverse and deeply earnest act that would later be parodied on The Simpsons as the group Hooray For Everything. On this sunny day in Miami, they open with their insipid eponymous staple, "Up With People"-Up, up with people! You meet 'em wherever you go!/Up, up with

people! They're the best kind of folks we know!-a number so bland as to make the music of Bobby Goldsboro seem esoteric by comparison.

Up With People was founded in 1965 by J. Blanton Belk, then the national director of the Moral Re-Armament movement, in order to provide youth with an alternative to the antiwar movement. "Its cornerstone," wrote David Allen in the 1967 book Born to Upturn the World, "is the burning, almost competitive spirit to live straighter lives than any men have dared to live."

So they did, for three more halftimes-or until minutes after their Super Bowl XX show, when Rozelle turned to another NFL executive and said, "Never f---- again."

The bar was lower in the 1980s; the NFL seemed not to know its own strength. Months before Super Bowl XVI, Jim Steeg walked into Rozelle's office and declared, "We've got to get Diana Ross to sing the national anthem!"

"Yeah, good luck with that," replied the commissioner. "They'd never really gone

after real star power," recalls Steeg, one of the founders of the NFL's special events department, who, incidentally, succeeded in getting Miss Ross.

That experience made it easier, in 1996, to book her as the headliner for the halftime show at Super Bowl XXX, in Tempe, Ariz, Ross had a killer act planned that year, but it ran 13% minutes. NBC insisted that she trim it to 12. After pleading her case, Steeg got the green light from the network for Ross to take 131/2 minutes, Steeg, accompanied by his son Bryce, then 16, stopped by Ross's



trailer to deliver the good news. "She was very happy, obviously," Steeg recalls, "so she gives me a big hug and a kiss." Afterward, Bryce looked at his father and said, "Wow, Dad. You really are the man!"

Steeg had been working his way up for a while. The first halftime show he was involved with was "A Salute to the Caribbean," at Super Bowl XIII, in the Orange Bowl. There, a boat "sailed" from isle to isle. "Except we couldn't stop at Haiti," he recalls. The Haitian musicians representing that island had fled, seeking asylum, several days earlier. And halfway through the show, the boat ran out of gas, leaving Steeg to push. "Not at all," he remembers lying, when asked by a concerned superior whether the boat had malfunctioned. All of this drama unfolded

on top of a 120-yard tarp that subbed as the Caribbean Sea. Inevitably, there was a problem rolling it up: One edge needed to be trimmedquickly. NFL groundskeeper George Toma shouted, "Has anyone got a knife?" "About eight knives came

flying out of the stands," Steeg recalls.

He's still defensive, though, about what he insists was the "most unfairly panned" halftime show ever, the unforgettable-for-all-the-wrong-reasons "BeBop Bamboozled" at Super Bowl XXIII in Joe Robbie Stadium. That show featured "the world's largest card trick," performed by the Prince of Prestidigitation, Elvis Presto (in reality, a 33-year-old Solid Gold dancer named Alex Cole).

"It was a really good idea," Steeg contends. "The problem was, we had to do it in 3-D because Diet Coke sponsored the halftime, and they'd distributed 40 million pairs of 3-D glasses."

To revisit that spectacle is to disagree with Steeg: There was nothing unfair about the reviews, which were savage. During his lead-in-"This is the single proudest moment of my life," followed by loud background laughter-and just before he donned 3-D glasses himself, halftime host Bob Costas appeared unable to conceal his mortification at what NBC was about to foist upon an unsuspecting planet.

HECALCULUS changed radically in 1992, after ice skaters Brian Boitano and Dorothy Hamill got their heads handed to them by In Living Color comedians Keenen and Damon Wayans. CBS's Nielsen rating dipped from a 42.1 to a 32.8 during that halftime, and the NFL suits had seen enough. Overnight it was decided: The days of jayvee, dinner theatercaliber entertainment were over. The league sent everyone deep. They decided to go after Michael Jackson.

For a month they got nowhere. Steeg sat down with the King of Pop's manager. Sandy Gallin, 11 months before Super Bowl XXVII. "I remember pitching them," he says, "and them not really having a clue what we were talking about." At a subsequent meeting, producer Don Mischer pointed out that the Super Bowl would be broadcast in more than 120 countries, Now he had Jackson's full attention. Steeg recalls Jackson say-

ing, "So you're telling me that this show is going live to all those places where I'll never do a concert?" A pause. "I'm in."

"Michael worked harder than anybody [who's done the halftime showl, before or since," says Steeg, who remembers seeing Jackson still rehearsing his act at seven the night before the game, in a tent outside the Rose Bowl.



Who should use Humalog?

Humalog is used to treat people with diabetes for the control of high blood sugar

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR HUMALOG

What is the most important information I should know

- Do not change the insulin you use without talking to your healthcare
- provider. Doses of oral antidiabetic medicines may also need to change if your insulin is changed. Test your blood sugar levels as your healthcare provider instructs.
- When used in a pump, do not mix Humalog with any other insulin or liquid

Who should not take Humalog? Do not take Humalog if your blood sugar is too low (hypoglycemia)

or if you are allergic to insulin lispro or any of the ingredients

Before using Humalog, what should I tell my healthcare providers?

- Tell your healthcare providers: About all of your medical conditions, including liver kidney, or
- heart problems
- If you are pregnant or breastfeeding. About all the medicines you take, including prescription (especially ones commonly called TZDs [thiazolidinediones])
- and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. How should I use Humalog?

- · Humalog is a rapid-acting insulin. Take Humalog within fifteen minutes before eating or right after eating a meal.
- Always make sure you receive the correct type of Humalog from the pharmacy.
- Do not use Humalog if it is cloudy, colored, or has solid particles or clumps in it.
- · Do not mix Humalog with insulin other than NPH when using a
- syringe. Do not mix or dilute Humalog when used in a pump. Inject Humalog under your skin (subcutaneously). Never inject into a vein or muscle. Change (rotate) your injection site with each dose.
- Make sure you inject the correct insulin and dose. · Depending on the type of diabetes you have, you may need to take Humalog with a longer-acting insulin or with oral
- antidiabetic medicines. · If you forget to take your dose of Humalog, your blood sugar may go too high (hyperglycemia), which can lead to serious problems
- like loss of consciousness (passing out), coma, or even death. Your insulin dose may need to change because of illness, stress, other medicines you take, change in diet, or change in physical activity or exercise.

What are the possible side effects of Humalog?

. Low blood sugar is the most common side effect. There are many causes of low blood sugar including taking too much Humalog. It is important to treat it quickly. You can treat mild to moderate low blood sugar by drinking or eating a guick source of sugar right away.

Humalog* and Humalog* KwkPen** are registered trademarks of Eli Lilly and Company and are available by prescription only.

Humalog KwikPen is prefilled with mealtime insulin, so it goes just about anywhere you go.

Talk to your doctor to learn more, and go to KwikPen.com for a free trial offer

Receive 5 free pens

If severe, low blood sugar can cause unconsciousness (passing out), seizures, and death. Symptoms may be different for each person. Be sure to talk to your healthcare provider about low blood sugar symptoms and treatment.

- Severe life-threatening allergic reactions (whole-body reactions) can happen. Get medical help right away if you develop a rash over your
- whole body, have trouble breathing, have a fast heartbeat, or are sweating. Reactions at the injection site (local allergic reaction) such as redness,
 - swelling, and itching can happen. If you keep having skin reactions or they are serious, talk to your healthcare provider. Do not inject insulin into a skin area that is red, swollen, or itchy
 - · Skin may thicken or pit at the injection site (lipodystrophy). Do not inject insulin into skin with these types of changes.
 - Other side effects include low potassium in your blood (hypokalemia).
 - and weight gain. · Serious side effects can include:
 - swelling of your hands and feet
 - heart failure when taking certain pills called thiazolidinediones or "TZDs" with Humalog. This may occur in some people even if they have not had heart problems before. Tell your healthcare

provider if you have shortness of breath, swelling of your ankles or feet, or sudden weight gain, which may be symptoms of heart failure. Your healthcare provider may need to adjust or stop your treatment with TZDs or Humalog.

. These are not all of the possible side effects. Ask your healthcare providers for more information or for medical advice about side effects

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

How should I store Humalog?

- · Unopened Humalog should be stored in a refrigerator and can be used until the expiration date on the carton or label.
 - Humalog should be stored away from light and heat. Do not use insulin if it has been frozen
- Opened vials should be kept at room temperature or in a refrigerator.
 - Opened cartridges or prefilled pens should be kept at room temperature. Once opened, Humalog vials, prefilled pens, and cartridges should be thrown away after 28 days.

Humalog is available by prescription only.

For additional information, talk to your healthcare providers and please see Information for Patients on following pages. Please see Instructions for Use that accompany your pen.

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insulin lispro injection, USP (rDNA origin)

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Information for Patients about Humalog®

(insulin lispro injection, USP [rDNA origin])

Read the "Patient Information" that comes with Humalog (HU-ma-log) before you start using it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This leaflet does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your diabetes or treatment. If you have questions about Humalog or diabetes, talk with your healthcare provider.

What is Humalog?

Humalog is an injectable, rapid-acting, man-made insulin. It is used to treat people with diabetes for the control of high blood sugar. You should take Humalog within fifteen minutes before eating or right after eating a meal.

What is the most important information I should know about Humalog? . Do not change the insulin you use without talking to your healthcare provider. Doses of oral diabetes medicines may also need to change if your

insulin is changed.

. You must test your blood sugar levels as your healthcare provider instructs. . If you forget to take your dose of Humalog, your blood sugar may go too high (hyperglycemia). If high blood sugar is not treated it can lead to serious problems like loss of consciousness (passing out), coma, or even death,

· Always make sure you receive the correct type of Humalog from the pharmacy. Do not use Humalog if it is cloudy, colored, or has solid particles or clumps in it.

. Do not mix Humalog with insulin other than NPH when using a syringe.

. Inject Humalog under your skin (subcutaneously). Never inject into a vein or muscle. Change (rotate) your injection site with each dose. Make sure you inject the correct insulin and dose.

. When used in a pump, do not mix Humalog with any other insulin or liquid. The infusion set should be changed at least every 3 days. The Humalog in the pump reservoir should be changed at least every 7 days even if you have not used all of the Humalog.

 Taking other medicines known as TZDs (thiazolidinediones) with Humalog may cause heart failure. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any new or worse symptoms of heart failure, such as shortness of breath, swelling

of your ankles or feet, or sudden weight gain. Who should NOT take Humalog?

Do not take Humalog:

· if your blood sugar is too low (hypoglycemia).

. before checking with your healthcare provider regarding any allergies you may have to its ingredients.

What are the possible side effects of Humalog?

· Low blood sugar (hypoglycemia). There are many causes of low blood sugar, including taking too much Humalog. It is important to treat it quickly. You can treat mild to moderate low blood sugar by drinking or eating a guick source of sugar right away. Low blood sugar may affect your ability to drive or operate machinery. Severe low blood sugar can cause unconsciousness (passing out), seizures, and death, Symptoms may be different for each person. Be sure to talk to your healthcare provider about low blood sugar symptoms and treatment.

. Severe life-threatening allergic reactions. Get medical help right away if you develop a rash over your whole body, have trouble breathing, have a

fast heartbeat, or are sweating.

. Reactions at the injection site such as redness, swelling, and itching. If you keep having skin reactions or they are serious, talk to your healthcare provider. Do not inject insulin into a skin area that is red, swollen, or itchy. . Skin may thicken or pit at the injection site (lipodystrophy). Do not inject

insulin into this type of skin.

- Other side effects include swelling of your hands and feet, low potassium in your blood (hypokalemia), and weight gain.
- Taking other medicines known as TZDs (thiazolidinediones) with Humalog may cause heart failure in some people.
- These are not all of the possible side effects. Ask your healthcare providers for more information

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA, Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

What should I tell my doctor before using Humalog?

- · About all of your medical conditions, including liver, kidney, or heart
- · About all the medicines you take, including prescription (especially ones commonly called TZDs (thiazolidinediones)) and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

. If you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

How should I store HUMALOG?

. Unopened Humalog should be stored in a refrigerator and can be used until the expiration date

. Humalog should be stored away from heat and light. Do not use insulin if it has been frozen.

. Opened vials should be kept at room temperature or in a refrigerator. Opened cartridges or prefilled pens should be kept at room temperature.

. Once opened, Humalog vials, prefilled pens, and cartridges should be thrown away after 28 days.

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And it showed. Jackson, rocking a bandolier-draped frock coat on loan, apparently, from Muammar Gaddafi, was sensational. The final moments of that show were the most viewed in the history of television at the time.

"All of a sudden," says Hill, the entertainment world saw the value of the Super Bowl halftime show: "That it gave them a worldwide platform to strut their stuff." The NFL has never looked back and now reserves that precious cultural real estate exclusively for blockbuster musical acts.

Scheduled to rock the Superdome at halftime of Super Bowl XXXVI, in 2002, was MI's younger sister, Janet Jackson. But she pulled out after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Fox's planned theme for the pregame show. vet another tribute to Mardi Gras, was scrapped in favor of "Hope, Heroes and Homeland." Before the game-credit for this inspired idea goes to Tagliabue-the Boston Pops played Aaron Copland's "Portrait of Lincoln." Narrating, and exuding varying levels of gravitas, were four former presidents, plus Nancy Reagan.

The task of finding a replacement for Jackson fell to the NFL's top marketing executive, John Collins, who's now the NHL's COO, Shortly after drawing that unenviable gig, Collins saw U2 perform at Madison Square Garden, During one of the band's half-dozen encores that night, the names of the nearly 3,000 people killed six weeks earlier scrolled slowly across the domed roof of the arena. "At first people didn't know what was going on," Collins remembers, "and then you heard, Oh, my God!, as they re-



BRASS TACKS
Walker's tribute to Mardi Gras
at Super Bowl IV—the second
of his three shows—included a
reenacted funeral march.

ROZELLE'S REACTION TO UP WITH PEOPLE'S SUPER BOWL XX ACT: "NEVER F----- AGAIN."

alized. People were reading the names of victims they'd known. It was a heavy moment—an amazing moment."

Collins immediately knew

the act he wanted for his halftime. Within two days Bono wasn't just on board with the idea, he was passionate about it. Not surprisingly, this being the cautious, finger-to-thewind NFI, that enthusiasm was not entirely reciprocated. How would it look, an Irish band commemorating an American tragedy? One TV exec pointed out that a US special on NBC had drawn underwhelming ratings.

Not among the handwringers: Roger Goodell, then the league's COO. "He was all for it," asys Collins. "Roger gets it." And while Taglitabue had initial reservations, he overcame them. U2 was a go, and the scrolling names would be reprised in New Orleans. The purpose of that solemn roll call, Bono had explained to NFL execs, was to remove the focus from the statistics, the number of deceased, and return it to the individuals.

Stunning in its impact at the Garden, the name-scrolling was exponentially more powerful as Bono belted out "Where the Streets Have No Name" to an international TV audience. The next day Collins got a note from U2 manager Paul McCuinness: "I almost feel sorry for whoever's next."

UCILLE WALKER hands a visitor a yellowing press guide from what's billed as the "Super Bowl Fourth World Championship Game." Tommy's halftime show that day, "Way Down Yonder." blew away anything that had come before. Walker employed 20,000 balloons, 50 American flags, 3,000 pigeons, 37 muskets and three cannons-the weaponry reserved for an onfield reenactment of the Battle of New Orleans, "complete with exploding cannons and British redcoats being felled by troops under the command of General Andrew Jackson and his unlikely compatriot, the pirate Jean Laffite," according to an appreciation of Walker that appears on the website Mardigrasunmasked.com.

Also noteworthy, the appreciation goes on to say, "was the prominence of African-Americans . . . and a jazz funeral procession, with members of local second line clubs strutting across the field. The shebang ended with a mini Mardi Gras parade."

"Re-creating a funeral procession on the field-who ever did that before?" asks Lucille, flipping through a stack of black-and-white photos from that day, By now the sun is low over the man-made lake in her backvard. Before bidding her visitor adieu, she offers a confession: For years, she has been unable to force herself to watch more than a few moments of any Super Bowl halftime show. She's reminded of what's missing.

"They don't have anybody who has the showmanship anymore—the pageantry. That's what people want. And that's what we're missing."

Are you listening, NFL? She wants more pageantry. More patriotism. More risk-taking! And, if possible, more homing pigeons. Get back to where you once belonged.



WHY THE SEAHAWKS WILL WIN

The Super 1 Bowl record for teams like the Seahawks in 2013, who finished as the regular season's ton scoring defense is 13-5. It has been more of a mixed bag, however, for teams that led the league in offensive scoring, as did the Broncos: They're 10-11. The NFL's hest defense and best offense have squared off in the Super Bowl five times. In four of those matchins. the more dominant defensive team has prevailed.

2 In the 47 previous Super Bowls. 35 winners have come out ahead in the turnover battle: just three winners had more giveaways than takeaways. That you could have quessed. But it's not often that one entry is so much better at creating takeaways. Seattle had an NFLbest regular-season turnover margin of plus-20 and forced fumbles on 1.75% of touches (No. 2). Denver, meanwhile. finished dead even in turnovers and lost a league-high 16 fumbles

The Broncos allowed 290 rushing yards to quarterbacks, the fifth most in the league, and got shredded by passers who are known for their wheels. In a total of six games against Denver, QBs Andrew Luck, Terrelle Prvor, Alex Smith and Michael Vick rushed for 253 vards, at 7.4 per carry. And Seattle's Russell Wilson? He ran for more yards (539) than any quarterback not named Prvor or Cam Newton.

Against Seattle, harried QBs tried to force the ball to their tight ends 122 times (ninth most in the NFL) but had little success: The Seahawks allowed just 782 yards to ends, 12th fewest. They've been even stingier in the playoffs as their LBs and punishing strong safety Kam Chancellor limited Jimmy Graham and Vernon Oavis. Pro Bowlers both. to three total receptions. All of this paints a bleak nicture for Denver

TE Julius Thomas.



BEEN THERE, DONE THAT

BOOMER ESIASON A QUARTER century ago I was Russell Wilson: a young QB going to his first Super Bowl. In my case it was XXIII, in Miami. And while some of my tearmates had played in the Bengals' previous Big Game, in '82, it was a new deal for most of us, as it is for every Seattle starter. Our opponents back them: the 49ers, led by Joe Montana, who beat us 20–16. You can quess which alever

I'd compare hint to in XLVIII.

While much has changed since 1989, have a good idea of what Russell and the Seahawks are going through. The distractions are endless. The phone starts ringing the day you win your conference; everyone you've ever met wants tickets. [I must have had 250 to 500 requests.] You suddenly have more off-the-field opportunities than you've

ever dreamed of 'your agent saying, Weor this logo, soy this, ond I con get you \$50,000. In the two-week span before the game! was a guest veelgy on an up-and-coming network called MTV, and I was on the national news talking about the race riots near our team hotel. Different guys react to that pressure in different ways. Everybody remembers the 49ers' final drive in that

+ BY BEN REITER

POINTS

WHY THE BRONCOS WILL WIN



These two teams faced off in the preseason. and while Seattle won 40-10. Manning was splendid before leaving midsecond quarter. He completed 11 of 16 throws for 163 yards and a TD-for a passer rating of 122.7. second highest against the Seahawks all year-and hit each of his top four targets at least once. And that was anainst a secondary that included CB Brandon Browner. who's since been suspended.

3 Marshawn Lynch will face a Broncos run D that hoasts a heast of its own: 6' 3". 335-pound tackle Terrance Knighton. That front ranked seventh against the rush (101.6 ypg), allowed the sixthfewest yards to backs (fewer even than the Seahawks despite facing more attempts) and allowed only the Charners' Ryan Mathews to rush for more than 100 yards. They held the likes of LeSean McCov and Jamaal Charles (twice) below the century mark.

The Broncos converted BB.9% of their fourth down attempts in '13. better than any team that has attempted at least six conversions. save one: the 2000 Colts (90%, and take one quess who the QB was). Denver coach John Fox doesn't roll the dice often but with his record-setting offense he was rarely tempted. That might not be the case in what figures to be a close game on Sunday, If Fox gambles, the odds will be in his favor.

game—but I had a unique experience. Before and during that 92-yard march, Olsney reps were all over me. I must've practiced saying, 'I'm going to Olsney World' 100 times. They even wented to put makeup on me. But when I turned around after Montana's winning TO pass to John Taylor, they were already running across the field, looking for Jurry Rice. That's how my ame ended.

and I'd stress this to any young player today. Don't think you'll be back here again. I never was.

44 times, third

most in the league.

And now, here stands Wilson. He's a great kid — polished, poised. I know he's going to handle it perfectly. And I'm sure Pete Carroll is doing his best psych job right now. telling his team that the world believes in Peyton Manning; nobody believes in Seattle. Our coach, Sam Worke, ladwed that same

card with us and Montana

Indeed, there's no match for Peyton's experience... Or is there? If the weather is dicey windy, with precipitation—I'm picking the more defense—and run-oriented team, with Wilson handling his business just fine: Seattle 24–20. If the wind is minimal, though, I'll go with Denver 27–20. Phyton's on a mission, and only Mother Nature can stoon him. WORDS WITH...

TERRY+ HOWIE

FOX'S ODD COUPLE DISH ABOUT A COLD-WEATHER SUPER BOWL, THEIR UNUSUAL CHEMISTRY AND WHY THEY MADE LIFE SO HARD ON THE TITANS' PLACEKICKER

BY RICHARD DEITSCH

Photographs by ROBERT BECK/SPORTS II LUSTRATED



ONE IS A thrice-divorced, 65-year-old, four-time Super Bowl-winning quarterback who was raised Baptist in Louisiana and starred for the Steelers. The other is a 54-year-old from Boston, married for 31 years and raised Catholic, who spent 13 seasons terror-

izing quarterbacks as a Raiders defensive end (and who won one Super Bowl). But Terry Bradshaw and Howie Long are as close as brothers. The Fox NFL Sunday commentators, celebrating their 20th year on the air together, will be part of the network's extended pregame coverage of Super Bowl XLVIII on Sunday (2 to 6 p.m., EST), as well as the halftime and postgame shows. SI caught up with them in Seattle before the NFC championship game.

Howie, what is the first word that comes to mind when describing Terry?

Bradshaw: [Interrupting.] Phenomenal, [Laughs,]

Long: My wife [Diane] always laughs at whatever Terry says. Laughter might be the word. We can be apart for months in the off-season, and the second we are back together, it's like we were together vesterday.

Why does the relationship

Long: It's like that phrase catching lightning in a bottle. because I really don't know. We do come from different backgrounds, and there's an age difference, but for whatever reason, from Day One we just gravitated toward each other. I am lucky to call him my friend.





and look out for each other. I tend to be more protective of Terry than he is with himself. I tend to get riled up when I hear or see some misconception of the guy. He has ridden this 'Aw, shucks' thing pretty well, but don't buy into any of that crap.

How much do you feel the toll of playing professional football?

Long: I gauge days on a 1-to-10 scale, and there are never any really good days. It's a question of whether the day is a 3 or 4-which is tolerable-or is it an 8? Between us, we have had more surgeries than years in broadcasting.

Bradshaw: If you played 10 vears in the NFL and started. trust me, vou're gonna hurt. Every day you get up and it's the same routine: O.K., I have to take a couple of Tylenols; I gotta take a Celebrex; I have to get in the steam or sauna, which I do every day. But I can't run anymore, and I was a huge runner.

TERRY BRADSHAW

HOWIELONG

boring.

Long: Well, I am

Bradshaw: One

day I looked over

to him, and I told

him, "You know

what your problem

is? You're boring," It

Long: I miss that too. Bradshaw: I also can't lift anymore because I can't hold anything over my head.

Would you marry again, Terry?

Bradshaw: Yes, I'm a threetime loser, and I feel so dirty. Getting divorced was never, ever something I contemplated. I feel like such a complete failure. I make fun of it because it is the best way to protect myself. I don't want to take my last breath without having someone who loves me.

Howie, have you or your wife ever tried to set Terry up? Long: My wife loves Terry, and

LLEP'ER/SPORTS ILLUSTRATED (BRADSHAW), JEFF CAPLICK (LONG

we've talked about it a lot. But we tend to be more protective of him.

Bradshaw: More like [protective] of the girl. I think I protect myself too much. It's nature. You don't want to get hurt. But I will bump into someone one of these days. Or not.

Terry, your daughter Rachel is engaged to [Titans kicker] Rob Bironas. Will it be cool having a kicker in the family? Bradshaw: I have no choice It is a matter of the heart. If that is who she picks, that is who she picks.

Long: He [Bironas] came to the show a few weeks ago. Nice guy. But on his way out the door-now I still have some of that old man strength-I put the handshake on him and said, "You know what, I'm a flight away. And unlike your future fatherin-law, I'm not worried about you liking me."

Bradshaw: I got word that he wanted to ask me for her hand while we were all on vacation in Hawaii. I was like, "Well, that is not going to happen. He's not going to ruin my vacation." So every day I was gone, and then when he was around, I made sure other people were around. I was not ready for him. Then during their bye week, he walked into my den [at Bradshaw's ranch in Thackerville, Okla.] at four in the morning when I was drinking coffee. I was like, "You are up awful early." He said, "Well, I don't know if you know this, but there is a reason we are here this week..." I stopped him right there and said, "O.K., you be nice to her," and along with a lot of other stuff I said, "God





"I TOLO HIM. YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR PROBLEM IS? YOU'RE BORING'" BRAOSHAW SAYS, "IT STUNNED HIM. BUT IN A GOOD FRIENDSHIP YOU CAN SAY THINGS LIKE THAT"

bless you, and I love you both, and I'm here for you." He said, "Well, you sure made that easy."

How interesting is this year's Super Bowl for you?

Bradshaw: I am a company guy, but I don't particularly like playing Super Bowls in cold weather. I don't like any restrictions or excuses. I am happy for my network, because it will bring so much exposure to Fox.

Long: The most moving Super

SI.COM Get more of Terry and

Howie's conversation with Richard Deitsch and catch up on his Media Circus column at SI.com/mag

Bowl for me was the one after 9/11, for all the obvious reasons. There was the halftime performance by U2, and Terry being the savant that he isand I am paraphrasing-said something in the pregame like, "In a year like the year we have had as a country, how can you pick against a team called the Patriots?" You looked at those teams on tape, and there was no logical way anyone thought the Patriots would beat the Rams, And, sure enough, my boy Nostradamus got it right.

Who is the one person you have yet to meet that you always wanted to? Bradshaw: I'm not easily impressed.

Long: I met Charlton Heston, and that was cool.

Bradshaw: I would have loved to meet Fred Astaire.

Fred Astaire?

Bradshaw: I love Fred Astaire. Long: Oh, you have no idea. When you are locked up in an eight-by-10 room in an aircraft carrier [during a visit to the USS Harry Truman in 2000] with a guy who has old man underwear on, and he is watching black-and-white movies all night, well, that was the apex of my life.

Bradshaw: I am a huge Fred Astaire fan, Huge, I was born at the wrong time. I should have been alive back in the 1920s, Howie, you could have been Clark Gable, Imagine if you had a little mustache and said, "Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn!"

How long do you each want to continue in broadcasting?

Long: I have fun doing what I am doing. We laugh so hard off air-more than you can imagine. It really is like what it is on air, except much funnier. And we could not have computer-generated a better guy to join the show than Michael [Strahan], A lot of it for me would be tied to how many years Terry goes.

Bradshaw: Well, I am doing it another 10 at least

Long: Then I'll address it in 10 years. When my man packs it in, I plan to start digging a hole for him in my backyard in [Charlottesville] Virginia.

Bradshaw: I want to see my hole. Because I plan to decorate it with a cherry tree.

Long: We already have the plot picked out in the back yard. Terry and I will be together for a long time.

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THEY'RE THE 230 ATHLETES WHO'LL REPRESENT AMERICA IN SOCHE-AND IF THEIR WARTEN OF THE DECOMPANY OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT THEY RE THE ESTUATHLETES WHO IL REPRESENT AWERICA IN SUCHE-AND IF THEIR VARIED STORIES RESONATE WITH US, PERHAPS IT'S BECAUSE THESE OLYMPIANS ARE US BA BIRIT LINTON & BHOLOGUNDAR BA STWON BURLA SOUTH ITTRELLINES WATER

OLYMPIC







CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING IESSTE DTGGTNS & KTKKAN RANDALL

The U.S. has never won cross-country gold. No American woman has even won a medal. That could change thanks to individual star Randall (bottom). 31, and Diggins, 22, who paired up with her to win the world team sorint title last year.



WE WILL make some introductions here, but

in a way, you know these U.S. Olympians. Maybe you haven't met them personally, and with the exception of snowboarder Shaun White, who will try to win his third straight gold in the halfpipe in Sochi, or perhaps skier Bode Miller. back for his fifth Games, you probably wouldn't recognize most of them if they passed you on the street. But you know them because no matter where you live, whether there is snow outside your window right now or sand between your toes, they come from among you.

These Olympians didn't

all grow up in the shadow of snowcapped mountains or spend their childhoods playing hockey on frozen ponds. Speedskater Eddy Alvarez, a Miami native, in-line skated through the streets of South Beach for years before he discovered the ice. Women's hockey forward Lyndsey Fry's journey to Sochi began in the stick-and-puck hotbed of Chandler, Ariz. Nick Goepper, who could become a breakout star in slopestyle skiing, one of 12 events on the Winter Games schedule for the first time (page 74), grew up skiing on a 300-foot "mountain" and practicing on a homemade snow park in his backyard in Lawrenceburg, Ind., not exactly a Winter Games mecca.

There was a time when the Winter Olympics were mostly a regional phenomenon in the U.S., with the overwhelming majority of the roster coming from cold-weather climates. But the USOC's efforts to tap into the national population have paid off with teams that draw talent from a larger pool-sometimes literally, as in the case of Brita Sigourney, a former UC Davis water polo player from Carmel, Calif., who will compete in the skiing halfpipe.

The influx of talent has helped transform the U.S. from a Winter Olympics also-ran into a power. At the 1988 Games in Calgary the U.S. team won just six medals, prompting an overhaul of financing and training that led to a 34-medal jackpot in 2002 in Salt Lake City. There is no better recruiting tool than winning, so it's not surprising that future Olympic-caliber athletes were attracted by seeing the U.S. improvement. Four years ago in Vancouver, Team USA turned in its best performance in history, with 37 medals, the most ever won by any country at a single Winter Games.

Topping the medal count in Sochi won't be easy, although the U.S. should again be among the most decorated countries. Team USA won't have the backyard boost it received when competing in-Salt Lake and Vancouver: it's worth noting that the one dip for the U.S. came at the 2006 Games in Turin. where the team went homewith 25 medals. The loss of Lindsey Vonn, the most successful female skier in U.S. history, to a knee injury won't help

But Team USA still has abundant talent. The Olympic effort has drawn in ath-







SKI JUMPING SARAH HENDRICKSON

Hendrickson, 19, is both a medal favorite and an underdog. She's the world champ, but last summer she shredded her right knee while training. "I laid at the bottom of the hill and thought everything was over," she says. After surgery and intense rehab, she returned to the hill in mid-January and is now ready for Sochi-an Olympian feat.



ICE DANCING MERYL DAVIS & CHARLIE WHITE

A likely hlahlight in Sochi will be the showdown between these reigning world champions and 2010 Olympic silver medalists (SI, Jan. 27) and their rivals, Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir of Canada, who won gold in Vancouver. All of them train under the same coach at the same Michigan rink. Davis, 27, and White, 26, will also try to lead the U.S. to a medal in the new team event.



letes not just from unlikely regions but also from other disciplines. Hurdler Lolo Jones and sprinter Lauryn Williams, who have five Summer Olympic appearances between them, are now part of the deepest U.S. women's bobsled team ever, Brittany Bowe, from Ocala, Fla., was a point guard at Florida Atlantic before she gave up full-court ballhandling for long-track speedskating. Though she had grown up as an accomplished in-line skater, Bowe had planned to play basketball overseas after graduating from FAU, But she had a change of heart when she watched speedskating in the 2010 Games and decided to move to Salt Lake City to train for a shot at Sochi.

The Winter Games seem

accessible to athletes even if they haven't spent a lifetime practicing their eventand those athletes in turn seem more accessible to us. You know these Olympians because despite the sponsorships and stipends that go to elite athletes now. there is still an Everyman/ Everywoman quality to them. They don't just represent us, they are us. When he's not training, ski cross medal favorite John Teller works as an auto mechanic at his dad's Chevron station in Mammoth Lakes, Calif. Russ Armstrong of the men's curling team owns a bowling center in Highwood, Ill., and his teammate Jeff Isaacson is a middle-school science teacher in Gilbert. Minn, These are not the pampered pros you are used to watching.





ICE HOCKEY

MONIQUE & JOCELYNE LAMOUREUX One of seven sets of siblings on Team USA, the

North Dakota twins eschew family rivalry for U.S .-Canada rivalry. They were in the thick of a brawl between the teams in October and hope in Sochi to evenge the 2010 gold-medal-game loss, in which they played. "It's always going to be heated [against Canada]," said Jocelyne [right], after another melee, in December.





IDIO JONES & FLANA MEYERS

Hold on for a wild ride. Amid a debate over whether two-time Olympic hurdler Jones (left), 31, was chosen for her abilities or her media appeal-with 30 pounds of added muscle, she has plenty of both-Meyers, 29, has quietly moved from 2010 bronze-medal brakewoman to star driver. Will the two pair up? Driver-pusher pairings for U.S. sleds haven't been announced.

0 YOU know anyone who has refused to give in to pain and injury? Then you know moguls skier Hannah Kearney, the Vancouver gold medalist. A training crash two years ago left her with a lacerated liver, two broken ribs and a punctured lung, but she made it back to win the World Cup title last year and is a favorite in Sochi, Nordic combined veteran Todd Lodwick, 37, probably won't win a medal at these Games to go with his 2010 silver, but just strapping on his skis would be accomplishment enough. Lodwick separated

his left shoulder when he crashed in a competition in France on Jan. 10 but said last week that he would be ready for Sochi, where he would become the U.S.'s first six-time Winter Olympian.

Do you know people who sacrifice and put others ahead of themselves? Then you know biathlete Tracy Barnes, who earned the fifth berth on the five-woman team, just ahead of her twin sister, Lanny, who might well have made the team if she had not missed three of the last four qualifying races due to illness. But it's Lanny who will compete in Sochi, because Tracy declined



tumble in which her right blade severely slashed her left ankle-Gunther, 26, will get the chance she narrowly missed four years ago when she skates the 1,000 in Sochi.

Do you know anyone who needed financial help after a sudden drop in the amount of money coming in? Then you know Emily Scott, who saw U.S. Speedskating cut her monthly training stipend to \$600 from \$1,950 when her performance began to slip last vear. That caused a serious hardship for her father, Craig, who has raised Emily, 24, and her sister since Emily was in third grade, (Her mother, Carol, is serving a 12-year prison term on a drug conviction.) The family applied for



ICE DANCING

MATA AND ALFX SHTRUTANT

The brother and sister call themselves the Shib Sibs, and they already have a sizable internet following thanks to the two dozen funny videos (a cooking-show spoof, a "Call Me Maybe" singalong) they've put up on YouTube, A different level of fame awaits if Alex, 22, and Maia, 19, can match their 2011 world bronze medal.

her roster spot so it would be given to the biathlete with the next highest number of points: her twin.

"She is having a stellar year, and I for one want to see how far she can take it . . . what heights she can climb to," Tracy wrote on the sisters' website, twinbiathletes.com. "So in the honor of friendship, cooperation and sacrifice, I declined my spot. . . . Please help me in cheering her on in Sochi," Only one twin will compete, but they will both hear cheers.

It is one thing to willingly give up an Olympic spot. It's quite another to have one abruptly taken away, which is what happened to longtrack speedskater Kelly Gunther four years ago. In 2010 she finished fourth in the 1.000 meters at the U.S. championships, apparently earning the final spot in the event for the U.S. team. A tweet from U.S. Speedskating proudly proclaimed, "Welcome to the Olympics, Kelly." But officials subsequently awarded a reskate to Rebekah Bradford. who had crashed out of her heat. Moments later Bradford posted a faster time, bumping Gunther from the squad. This year-having also come back from a horrific March 2010





food stamps after the stipend was reduced, but the Scotts' story went public and donors began sending in cash. About 700 people donated nearly \$50,000, helping to make it possible for Emily to continue training and qualify for all three individual short-track races in Sochi.

There are also some familiar faces and story lines. Maybe you know the U.S. men's hockev team-with NHL stars like Ryan Callahan, Patrick Kane, Ryan Miller and Zach Parisea hit better than most of the other winter athletes. The Americans lost the gold medal game to Canada in Vancouver in 2010 and should be in the mix for a medal again, although foreign ice has not historically been kind to Team USA. Americans haven't won an Olympic men's hockey medal outside North America since 1972.



PARALYMPIC SLED HOCKEY STEVE CASH

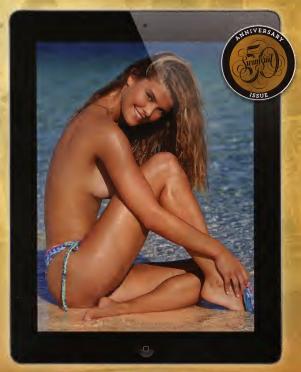
When Cash was three. bone cancer forced the amputation of his right lower leg. Cash played roller backey on a prosthetic as a kid. then took up sled hockey in 2005. Now 24, he was the goalie on the U.S.'s 2010 Paralympic gold medal team. If Team USA repeats, it will be in front of a much larger audience: For the first time NBC will show extensive live coverage of the Paralympics, from March 7 through 16.

As always with the Winter Games, if you don't know the U.S. figure skaters yet, you soon will, especially with the drama that accompanied the selection of the three-person women's team. Under normal circumstances the top three finishers at January's U.S. championships in Boston, Gracie Gold, Polina Edmonds and Mirai Nagasu, would have been named to the team. But the U.S. Figure Skating selection committee chose to bypass Nagasu and give the third spot to fourthplace finisher Ashley Wagner, who fell twice in an uncharacteristically poor performance in Boston but last year placed fifth at the world championships, higher than any other American woman. How Wagner reacts to the pressure of justifying her reprieve could be one of the main stories of the competition.

Then there is White, the Olympian you surely do know. not just from his previous gold medal performances in the halfpipe but also from the endorsements and TV appearances that resulted from them White has a chance to leave Sochi with more halfpipe hardware and perhaps a medal in the new slopestyle snowboarding event that he once dominated in the X Games.

Slopestyle is one of three events that will open the Games on Feb. 6, and you soon will be familiar with it and its stars, just as the rest of Team USA is about to become a collection of much more familiar faces. Before the month is out, and the 230 American athletes in Sochi have faced the challenges of a road Olympics more than 5,000 miles away, you will feel as if you've known them forever.

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED SWIMSUIT 2014















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HERE IS this little girl. Thirteen years ago, on a late autumn afternoon, she goes with her kindergarten classmates to the top of the bunny hill off Lift 12 at Vail Ski Resort in Colorado.

It is the first day of their after-school ski program. The children are instruced to ski to the bottom of the hill as best they can, while evaluators at the base observe their skills and divide them into balanced training groups for the winter. One after another the boys and girls lock their skis into wedges the shape of pizza slices and snowplow downhill. All except Mikaela Shiffrin.

Mikaela has never been taught to snowplow. "Skis are designed to make smooth arcs in the snow," says her father,

Jeff, an anesthesiologist. "That's what we taught her." So instead of wedging, she cruises down the mountainside carving graceful turns before stopping at the feet of an instructor, who looks down at her incredulously and says, "Well, I don't have a group for you."

ALREADY ORAWING COMPARISONS WITH LINOSEY VONN, U.S. PRODIGY MIKAELA SHIFFRIN, 18, IS A ONCE-IN-A-GENERATION TALENT

BY TIM LAYDEN

Photograph by SIMON BRUTY/SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

> Six years later the little girl's family has

moved across the country. Her brother, Taylor, is a boarding student at Burke Mountain Academy, a prey school in northern Vermont that specializes in training promising ski racers. Mikaela and her mother, Eileen, live nearby in a condo in East Burke, Vt., while Jeff works at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in New Hampshire. Mikaela is being homeschooled by her mom and training most afternoons with the youngest Burke racers. Among her instructors that winter of 2006–07 is Chip Knight, then 31, a three-time U.S. Olympic ski racer who retired the previous spring. He is amazed at what he sees in this blonde 11-year-old.

"I'm watching her train," says Knight, "and she's just incredible. She's doing things, fundamentally, that I was still working on at the end of my professional career."

Slightly more than four years after that, the little girl, one day shy of her loth birthady, is sirting in a base ski lodge in Spindleruv Mlyn, Czech Republic, awaiting her turn in a World Cup slalom race, her second start at the highest level of the sport. Sitting next to her is Sarah Schleper, a four-time Olympian who is also entered in the race. They are watching the early racers come down the hill. It is something that Schleper usually doesn't do, because watching makes her nervous. "Even at that point in my career, my confidence wasn't good enough to watch the other girls,"

says Schleper, now 34. "But Mikaela watched them all. and she gave me this insane course report: 'Here is exactly what you have to do, right here, and here, and here,' And I went out and had one of my best races of the year. At the time my son was four years old, and Mikaela was closer to his age than to mine. But I felt like she was a more mature athlete than I was."

This month Shiffrin, now 18 and a world champion. will go to the Winter Olympics as one of the favorites to win the gold medal in slalom and a threat to win a medal in giant slalom, either of which would make her the voungest U.S. Alpine medalist in history. She will attract much of the attention that was reserved for Lindsey Vonn (who will miss the Games because of a knee injury), despite the fact that Shiffrin does not compete until the second week. NBC will lock onto her smile, and her Twitter follower count will go through the roof.

All of this might seem remarkable for such a young racer who has risen so quickly to the top of her sport, Yet in truth it's been coming for most of Shiffrin's life-a



greatness reached in unconventional ways but long waiting to happen.

I was a coach at a summer ski camp on Mount Hood [Ore.]. Mikaela was nine. At the start of camp, we ask all the kids to write down a Camp Goal and a Dream Goal. For her Dream Goal, Mikaela wrote, "Be in the Olympics at age 16." Now lots of kids write that kind of stuff, but with Mikaela, all the coaches just looked at each other and said, 'Yup, I can see that,' And the only thing that prevented it was, there were no Olympics when she was 16, -SIMON MARSH, 44,

ski instructor



N JANUARY 2012 Shiffrin earned her first World Cup victory, in a slalom in Are, Sweden, and became the second-voungest U.S. skier to win at that level. Since then she has won six of the 10 World Cup slaloms contested, some by astounding margins (and most after listening to Daft Punk's "Get Lucky" before the start). She won the slalom at the February 2013 world championships and took home the seasonlong slalom title. At 18 she has already won more World Cup slalom races than any other U.S. woman in history except Tamara McKinney (who won nine). Only Vonn (59), McKinney (18) and Picabo Street (nine) have won more total World Cup races than Shiffrin.

Shiffrin has jolted the ski world with not just her skill-"So solid in every turn, very few mistakes, makes it look easy when it's not," says U.S. teammate Ted Ligety, 29, the world's top-ranked men's giant slalom skier-but also her emotional maturity, "She's so young, but mentally she's one of the strongest skiers on the whole circuit," says her coach, Roland Pfeifer, 49, an Austrian hired by the U.S. ski team in 2011. "Even when she gets nervous, it doesn't affect her."

In early December, two days after finishing second in a World Cup giant slalom at Beaver Creek in Colorado, Shiffrin sat at the dining room table of her family's home near Vail. Her mother, who travels with her on the World Cup circuit, worked on a laptop in the living room. Shiffrin's agent, former Austrian Olympian Kilian Albrecht, swiped through messages on his phone.







"I know I'm still the baby of the circuit," Shiffrin says, "but I'm skiing well and I feel like I belong, Last year if I won a race. I was like. What if this is all a fluke and every other skier has her skis done wrong? What if it was iust some magical Christmas story? This year I feel a lot less of that tension. When I'm in the starting gate, it's just me and the hill." She shrugs. "Drama," she says, "holds

This season Shiffrin has twice reached the podium in giant slalom. Her growing competence in that event is a first step toward adding the straighter, faster downhill and

Super G to her rep-

you back."

ertoire. (At age 15 she skied on a gnarly Super G training course in Chile during summer training, "She flew so far off one jump that I think she freaked her mother out a little bit," says Adam Chadbourne, her coach at the time. "I asked her, 'Are you scared?' She said, 'Not at all!' ")

all World Cup titles in her future," says Ligety, refer-

> given to the skier who scores the most points in all events combined. Vonn has won it four times.

"She's going to compete with Lindsey's records someday, I'm sure of it," says Schleper. "She's going to do amazing things."

SKI-NOMENON Shiffrin has already won mora World Cup sialom races than any other U.S. woman in history except Tamara McKinnay,

ISTORY SUGGESTS that for U.S. skiers there is rarely a linear path to Olympic medals, There is a well-funded national team structure, vet some of the most successful racers in U.S. history-Phil and Steve Mahre, Bode Miller (page 73), Street and Vonn-have developed either at the edges of that system or entirely outside it. Shiffrin, too, has an element of the lone wolf, having moved across the country three times and been taught by her parents that excellence grows from passion, not from demands.

Dover, N.J., but often spent

weekends skiing with his family at Stratton or Sugarbush in southern Vermont. At 13 he joined the race team at what was then called Great Gorge Ski Resort (now Mountain Creek) in northwestern New Jersey, and on his first day of training he was greeted by an Austrian coach whose only instruction before pushing off the top of the hill was, "Follow me." It was a teaching tactic that Jeff would remember. He later raced on the ski team at Dartmouth and staved active in the sport after taking up anesthesiology.

Eileen Condron was a member of the ski team at Mount Greylock Regional High in Williamstown, Mass., in the Berkshires. The school bus dropped her off each afternoon at Brodie Mountain. By the time she was a nurse at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Boston, where she met Jeff in 1985, she had not been skiing for several years. Jeff remedied that: One of their first dates was at Killington Mountain in central Vermont.

Eileen and Jeff got married in 1986, built a social life around masters (over-30) ski racing and moved in 1991 to Colorado, where the snow was better and the mountains higher. Eileen became a nationally prominent masters racer, Taylor was born in 1992 and Mikaela three years later, on March 13, 1995, (She was given a name her parents deemed Slavic sounding, partly in homage to Jeff's paternal grandparents, who lived in a small town outside Minsk in Belarus.) The Shiffrins immersed their kids in physical activity: wind surfing, soccer,

"No doubt there are over-

ring to the honor SI.COM

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events at the

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Jeff Shiffrin was raised in



PASSING THE TORCH
The withdrawal of the injured Yonn (left) has left Shiffrin as the
leading hope for a U.S. women's Olympic Alpine medal.

frins moved to New Hampshire for Jeff's work, The kids began training and racing with a big ski club, but the training groups were large and parental involvement minimal, so Jeff and Eileen helped start a smaller program at a tiny ski area called Storrs Hill, under director Rick Colt. "Both of us, and Eileen in particular, weren't prepared to turn our kids' development over to somebody else," says Jeff, "particularly if that somebody else has eight or 10 kids they're responsible for. If you have 35 kids in a school classroom, it's hard to get anything but mediocrity. Since we had the knowledge and tools, the best way to achieve that was on our own."

In Mikaela, the Shiffrins say, they were not trying to build an Olympian; they were trying to raise a healthy, strong skier with a love of the sport. They got both. "The goal was always to work toward mastery," says Jeff. "Race results were important, but they weren't the overarching goal." From early in her career, Mikaela would skip races to train, maximizine her repetitions.

"Everyone wants to replicate what I've done," she says.
"I remember skiing being a family recreational thing. I feel like we did it differently."

When Taylor enrolled at Burke, Mikaela spent winters training with Burke racers under coach and headmaster Kirk Dwyer. For two years she thrived under Dwver, but in 2008 Jeff took a job back in Colorado, Taylor stayed at Burke and Mikaela, 13, moved to Vail with her parents. Her skiing deteriorated, and for the first time she appeared uninterested. "She felt like she got gypped out of boarding at Burke," says Jeff. "How did that affect her training in Vail? I don't know, Maybe she didn't click with new coaches. She wanted to go back to Burke, We made it happen."

Within three months of returning to Vermont as a boarding student (with Eileen nearby in the condo), Mikaela swept all three races at the Eastern championships and won an international junior race in British Columbia, She developed a voracious appetite for video study, sitting for hours in Dwyer's office analyzing her technique and that of racers such as Marlies Schild of Austria, the alltime World Cup leader in slalom wins and now, at 32, one of Shiffrin's biggest rivals. On

tennis, even riding unicycles. And skiing. Lots of skiing.

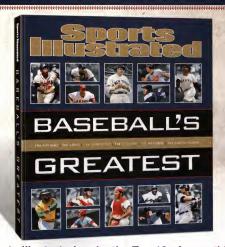
But neither Taylor nor Mikaela ever took a conventional ski lesson (in which they would have been taught to snowplow). They skied with their parents. "It was always 'Follow me' or 'Follow Mom,'" says Jeff: "They didn't get a chance to make too many turns without somebody who had an awful lot of interest in their safety and progress teaching them how to do it right."

Teachers at Vail recall Mikaela as a prodigy. "She had skills and confidence," says Marsh, who, before coaching Mikaela at Mount Hood, helped instruct her at age six in the Vail Ski Club. "And she was exceptionally motivated. She just wanted to learn more and more."

In 2003, when Taylor was 11 and Mikaela eight, the Shif-



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training afternoons she would be the first racer on Burke Mountain's single Poma lift and the last one off it.

By 15 Mikaela was traveling the Nor-Am circuit, a North American racing series that prepares young skiers for the World Cup. There she occasionally crossed paths with national team members, and she felt the first pangs of jealousy from skiers who saw her in their rearview mirrors. chasing their financial support. "There were older racers who were just not very nice to her," says Chadbourne, a Burke coach who accompanied Mikaela on the circuit. At season's end she raced her first World Cups, in the Czech Republic, and coached Schleper to an 11th-place finish in that slalom event.

Mikaela joined the U.S. ski team in the spring of 2012. already ranked No. 38 in the world in slalom. She would spend her junior and senior years in high school touring Europe in the World Cup, racing and living with women many years her senior, "The ski team initially told us that they wanted the older girls to mentor Mikaela," says Eileen Shiffrin. "She was 16 years old! And she wasn't a precocious girl, she was conservative. She had heard all kinds of stories about what goes on out on the World Cup. She said to me, 'Nobody is going to want to hang out with me. I don't drink. I don't party. I don't sleep with boys.' bination. Eileen is a smart lady. Mikaela is comfortable with her around. Without mom here, none of this would have happened."

Their first year was an adventure. "Every day was a blast, but every day was also something new," says Mikaela. "Where are the bathrooms? Where is the hotel? Why does the GPS stop here when the mountain is over there?"

Now the Shiffrins have an apartment in Austria to use

I IHE highest level of ski racing, events are decided by small fractions of a second. Last year in Lenzerheide, Switzerland, in the final World Cup slalom, with the season's slalom title on the line. Shiffrin fell a distant 1.17 seconds behind Tina Maze of Slovenia on the first run. Shiffrin's second run was a staggering .71 of a second faster than any other racer's (and 1.52 seconds faster than that of



ROLE MODEL TURNED RIVAL Growing up, Shiffrin studied videos of the technique of Schild (above), whom she'll battle for gold in Sochi.

The Shiffrins pushed back and demanded that Eileen be allowed to travel with Mikaela. The team relented. Pfeifer says, "Look, they're obviously an awesome comas a home base of sorts. They watch Friends, Glee and NCIS together. Both have become more comfortable with their shared place on the team, and Mikaela feels closer to teammates such as vereran slalom racer Resi Steigler, 28. "I don't feel like I'm tagging along anymore," says Shiffrin. "I feel like we're friends." Slowly, the walls have come down.

Maze, who had dominated the season). In a rare display of emotion Shiffrin fell to her knees in the finish corral and cried, face buried in her thick gloves.

From the fairy dust of that win, and many others, a question emerges: How does Shiffrin ski so fast? In the technical races of slalom and giant slalom, a skier's goal is to successfully navigate all the gates while maintaining the straightest-and fastest-line down the course, Because World Cup courses are steep, challenging and often icy or rutted, the best racers are those who can carve the cleanest arc around the gates, minimizing loss of speed. Carving is a complex act involving angulation, power, vision and touch, "Mikaela," says Pfeifer, "is the carving master. She carves all the way through the turn, so smoothly."

Knight, primarily a slalomist in his World Cup career. says, "The term we use in ski racing is that she's early, and by that I mean early in the turn. Ideally a racer wants to put pressure on the ski in the fall line of the hill. If you're still putting pressure on your ski below the fall line, you're fighting gravity. By the time Mikaela gets even with the gate, she's done with her turn. She's very rarely fighting gravity. You almost never see a big, harsh spray of snow as she passes the gate. She's not doing acrobatic recoveries. because she's never in the position where she has to recover. She's so sound, it's almost boring."

six World Cup slalom races from 1993 to 2006, says, "I always felt like I had a real solid stance on my skis, very powerful. Mikaela has that. But she also has this unbelievable touch on the snow, and it's almost magical, I definitely did not have that. I don't think vou can teach it. It's why she's good in all conditions. They put water on the hill to freeze it? No problem, It's snowing? No problem, Ruts? No problem." Shiffrin's touch

Kristina Koznick, who won

reminds Koznick of four-time Olympic gold medalist Janica Kostelic of Croatia. "Her skis," Schleper says of Shiffrin, "are extensions of her feet."

There's another element. too. "She's young," says Ligety, "She feels great, She hasn't had a lot of adversity. She's just hammering along with so much confidence, and she might just keep doing that for a long time."

HAT YOUTH is always present. When Shiffrin was six her parents had a poster autographed for her by three-time U.S. Olympian Heidi Voelker, who wrote beneath her signature, "A.B.F.T.T.B." and translated: "Always Be Faster Than the Boys," Shiffrin wrote it on her skis as a junior racer, and now it's a decal on her Atomic racing helmet, connecting the small child to the grown-up racer.

Media attention has been relentless, she says, but it's also been universally supportive, especially from NBC, which creates virtual partnerships with U.S. Olympic athletes. Of course, in time Shiffrin will experience some sort of failure, followed by the sting of criticism. At the mention of this she retreats to her teenaged self. "I think about that," she says, and then she squeals, "and I'm like, Please don't be mean to me!"

She will grow a lifetime in Russia, She will win the medals her nation hopes for, or the medals will wait. She will become famous, or the fame will be delayed. But it is only a matter of time. Because all these years later, we still don't have a group for her.

Bode's Last Run?

AT 36 ON A REBUILT KNEETHAT SIDELINED HIM FOR A YEAR BODE MILLER IS BACK FOR HIS FIFTH GAMES-AND HE'S ONE OF THE U.S.'S TWO BEST MEN'S MEDAL HOPES



THERE HAS never been a career in U.S. Alpine skiing like Bode Miller's; an iconoclastic saga played out across three decades. After a childhood

spent sleeping in a handmade house without electricity, Miller grew into a transcendent skier who won more World Cup races (33) and Olympic medals (five) than any other U.S. male in history-while bludgeoning that remarkable legacy with willful impudence. He traveled the circuit in his own party bus, admitted to having skied "wasted" and turned the 2006 Olympics into his personal rager. Then, at Vancouver in '10, he went gold-silver-bronze.

That would have been a sweet closing act, but Miller is back. He is married (to pro volleyball's Morgan Beck), with two small children (neither with Beck, and one the subject of a fierce custody battle). He had microfracture surgery on his left knee in 2012. "It still hurts," he said in Oecember, "but it feels better than it has for a long time."

It has been an emotional year for Miller. Beck had a miscarriage in January 2013, and in April, Bode's brother, Chelone, 29, died of a seizure eight years after suffering a brain injury. Miller struggled for much of the World Cup season before taking third in a downhill and second in a Super Gliust two weeks before Sochi.

Ted Ligety remains the best U.S. men's medal hope. He's the world champion in Super-G, giant slalom (his specialty) and combined. He won the combined in 2006 and has 19 World Cup GS wins, third alltime among men, Among U.S. women, Mikaela Shiffrin is the favorite in slalom and a threat in GS. Three-time medalist Julia Mancuso hasn't won a World Cup race in two years, but has a history of success in the Games. -TL



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SPIN TO WIN

White is known more for halfpipe, but he'll also challenge in slopestyle [above] and try for an unprecedented double.



WHAI WAS wrong with this picture? Here was Shaun White standing on the lowest step of the podium at an Olympic qualifier in December. The reigning King of the Halfripe has long shared the competitive philosophy espoused by Ricky Bobby in Talladega Nights: If you air first, you're last. Yet there he was, professing to be thrilled by his third-place finish, smilling for the cameras and bumping knuckles with the two Norwegians who'd just schooled him.

That's because the event they'd just contested wann't he halfpipe. On this frigid afternoon at Colorado's Copper Mountain three days before Christmas, White, Torstein Horgmo and Stale Sandbeeh had finished 3-2-1 in slopesty, in which athletes launch off a series of jibs, rails and jumps, executing a variety of highly technical, insanely difficult freestyle maneuvers.

Well, usually that's what they do. After stomping his first run to take the lead at Copper, White took an ungainly tumble off the first rail on his second run, reprising the Agony of Defeat crash of the hapless ski jumper at the beginning of ABCS Wide World Syports. His run was over before it started. Rather than sulk or fume, White celebrated when his first run held up for third place.

"Top three finish, top American finish—I'm very happy," he insisted afterward. Surprisingly, he meant it.

He stood on the podium clutching two prizes: a Paul Mitchell lunch box and a skateboard. The first called to mind those

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late, lamented auburn locks he sheared off in December 2012. ("I'm lighter . . . I can go higher now," he says.) The second served as a reminder of his Renaissance man's range. The winner of the last two Olympic gold medals in the men's halfpipe has also won five skateboarding medals at the Summer X Games. White designs clothes, collects art, serves as the CEO of Shaun White Enterprises and plays lead guitar in a band called Bad Things, which performed on the main stage at Lollapalooza in Chicago last summer and recently dropped its first album. He is a restless, creative spirit whose talents can't be contained by a single discipline. So it wasn't surprising, after the IOC announced that slopestyle would be one of the new sports on the program in Sochi, that White decided

Olympic snowboarding to have won two medals. No rider has won medals in separate events. In trying to be the first. White is ranging out of his comfort zone-but only a few steps. He's not Bo Jackson, killing it in the NFL and MLB. He's more like Charles Woodson, going both ways for Michigan in the mid-1990s. White isn't learning a new event from scratch; Eight of his 18 Winter X Games medals have come in slopestyle. five of them gold, "Shaun's always been an amazing slopestyle rider," says Mike Jankowski, the U.S. head coach of halfpipe and slopestyle for both snowboarding

to double down.

White is one of eight rid-

ers in the 16-year history of

and free skiing. "I wouldn't call him an underdog,"

Maybe not, but when Mark McMorris shows up at a slopestyle venue, everyone else is an underdog. A plainspoken 20-vear-old from Regina, Saskatchewan, McMorris was the first boarder to land a 1440 triple cork in competition. That's three revolutions wrapped in two off-axis flips. For the longest time, this move eluded White, who reportedly now has the triple in his quiver but so far has only landed it in practice. White's Olympic odds improved a bit last Saturday when McMorris cracked a rib in the slopestyle finals at the X Games (which White had skipped, in order to polish his run for Sochi). McMorris remains the Olympic favorite, though a less commanding one. The younger rider has been

an unwelcoming alpha, sometimes giving off a prickly, territorial vibe when asked about White. McMorris seems to regard the American as a day-tripper, a carpetbagger. He has questioned White's commitment to slopestyle ("He doesn't ride rails. He doesn't watch snowboarding"), implied that White gets favorable treatment from X Games judges and called him out for, well, not being a bro ("He's so lame. He's on his own page; he doesn't hang out with anybody but himself").

White is unaccustomed to such impertinence. Surely he would cherish the opportunity to silence this Canadian whippersnapper with the world watching. For that to be possible, however, the planet's

best-known snowboarder needed to earn a spot on the U.S. slopestyle team, a task that proved far more nerve-racking than anyone had expected. After wrenching his ankle in the pipe at the season's first Olympic qualifier, White was forced to pull out of the slopestyle event, posting a Facebook picture of himself reposing on a sofa while icing the bum ankle. Hashtag: #RoadtoCouchi.

That ratcheted up the pressure for the second qualifier, at Copper Mountain, which explained the curious sight of White and his coach, Bud Keene, sharing an embrace of iov and relief after the erstwhile Flying Tomato took third behind the Norwegians-a result that greatly boosted his chances of making the

team. He finally clinched his

slopestyle berth in

the penultimate

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qualifier but only after more drama: One of his qualifying runs ended with him augering face-first into the snow, where he lay for five minutes as paramedics attended to him. Bloodied but unbowed. White returned that af-



UPS AND DOWNS White (left) will be judged in part on how much air he gets on his tricks, while the fastest time is what matters in the new parallel slalom.

ternoon to win the eventand make the U.S. team in slopestyle-after which he deadpanned, "I have a date with a tub of ice right now."

Spoken like the old fogy he is rapidly becoming. White is 27 in human years, which equates to double that number in snowboarding years. With his respectable new 'do and staid, grownup endorsements-including Target and Hewlett-Packardhe's tacked much closer to the mainstream than the spindly, grinning hair farmer who won gold in Turin eight years ago.

The same can be said of his signature event. Once the realm of upstarts and rebels, the halfpipe now has the whiff of the establishment. It's being pushed in that direction by the introduction, in these Olympics, of a wave of new extreme-sport events. including not just snowboarding slopestyle (and the more sedate snowboarding slalom) but also halfpipe and slopestyle skiing. Bob Costas, NBC's main host for the Sochi Games, recently characterized events such as slopestyle as "Jackass stuff they invented and called Olympic sports." (After providing that description on the Today show, Costas presumably returned home. prepared a glass of Metamucil. then shouted out his window, "You kids get off my lawn!")

tas and his staid ilk are ant to fade once the haters have watched more slopestyle. It's harder for any Team USA fan to dismiss a sport-to ignore the discipline and sacrifice that goes into it-when the winner is standing on a podium, leaking tears, as the national anthem plays in the background. Since halfpipe

The criticisms from Cos-

and snowboard cross were added to the Olympic program in 1998 and 2006, respectively, American athletes have won 17 of the 36 medals awarded in those events. Even taking into consideration the presence of superb international talents, that U.S. dominance will likely be magnified by the new disciplines.

But snowboarding is suddenly facing an Olympic challenger. Once derided as squares by the boarders, free skiers are the new barbarians at the gate. The same course shredded by the snowboarders will also serve as the venue for men's and women's ski slopestyle, Likewise, the double-plankers will take over the halfpipe once White & Co. have dispersed. Just as the boarders chafed at the heavy hand of the Man-officials from the International Ski Federation (FIS)-in their Olympic infancy, some free skiers, we learn from Powder.com, resent the "inherent hypocrisy of freeskiing being sanctioned and regulated by the FIS."

Judge us, they are saving. But don't tread on us.

ADDIE BOWMAN wasn't questioning authority. Her decision to get a tasteful piercing in her right nostril during her senior-class trip to Disneyland was merely an expression of her individuality, Her

SINCE HALFPIPE AND SNOWBOARD CROSS WERE ADDED TO THE OLYMPIC PROGRAM. AMERICANS HAVE WON 17 OF THE 36 MEDALS AWARDED.





mother, Sue, took one look at it and said, "It's your face." "But now." Bowman reports, "she doesn't mind it."

Bowman's parents are accustomed to her independent streak. They were both ski racers, and Bowman raced until she was 13, then bailed. She wasn't having fun. "I got tired of the people," she recalls, "and how serious they were."

The halfpipe at her local mountain, Sierra-at-Tahoe, in Northern California, called out to her. "I made great friends," she says, "and we had a blast, all the time." Bowman entered a few competitions and surprised herself. Two years ago her success in a handful of smaller ski halfpipe events earned her

FREESTYLIN' France's Kevin Rolland. a two-time X Games champion in the ski pipe, is one of the favorites to take home the first Olympic gold.

a spot at the X Games, where she took silver. A year later she won at X, and she has kept on winning. In her final three Olympic qualifiers, she placed second, first and first.

The silver came on a snowy night at Copper. The accumulation of white stuff in the pipe slowed the riders, not much but enough to slightly diminish their amplitude-for which Bowman felt compelled to apologize to a reporter. "When it's not snowing," she said, "people are going a lot bigger."

Bowman, 20, is great friends with Aaron Blunck, 17, a fellow halfpiper whose trajectory has been similarly steep. While his coaches were grooming him for 2018, Blunckie blew up. His multiple podiums in 2013 included a victory at the Copper Mountain qualifier. The new plan is to get him ready for Sochi. where he'll be a legit medal threat, "Guys like Aaron getting on the podium-that just pushes the pros, and they end up raising the bar even higher," says Jankowski.

Growing up in Lawrenceburg, Ind., Nick Goepper dreamed of X Games medals (ski slopestyle wasn't yet an Olympic event) as he set up a rail in his backvard, then worked on the tricks he'd seen his idols do-pioneering free skiers like Simon Dumont and Tom Wallisch. "I'd do that all summer long," recalls the 19-year-old Goepper.

Excuse me, summer?

"Well, yeah. I'd lay down AstroTurf," The fake grass is plenty slippery, Goepper explains, and the friction coefficient could be further lowered by the liberal application of dishwashing liquid to the bottoms of his skis.

His ability to adapt to his surroundings helped Goepper win a Dew Tour event in mid-December despite flipping his way down the course without poles, the result of competing with a broken left hand.

Another youngster who has joined the Olympic medal conversation is Arielle Gold a 17-year-old snowboarder from Steamboat Springs, Colo. In the halfpipe at Copper on Dec. 21 she stormed into the lead with a 91.5. The next boarder to drop in was Kelly Clark, now 30 and bearing down on her fourth Olympics. Her message to Gold: Not tonight, kid. Boosting as high above the lip as some of the guys, she threw down a 95. Clark, who has two Olympic medals, including the gold from 2002, will be very tough to heat in Russia

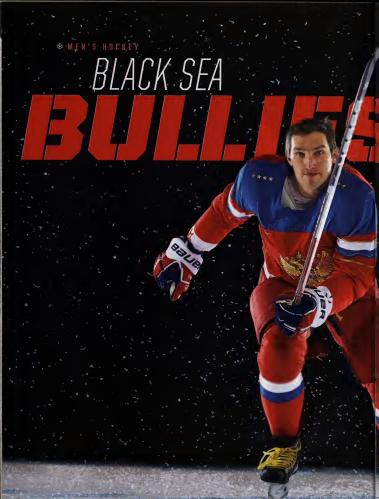
Arielle settled for silver. but the Gold family wasn't finished. On the strength of a clean, stylish run highlighted by a front-side 1260 that flowed into a sublime, rarely thrown Double Michalchuk (YouTube "Michael Michalchuk"), Taylor Gold, 20, won gold on the men's side.

After posing for a family portrait in the pipe. Taylor explained that he hadn't felt much pressure. "I'm on the rookie team. We're the underdogs."

During the off-season, he went on, "we have these U.S. team snowboarding camps. Everyone you can imagine is there-except Shaun White, he's doing his own thing-and we all push each other."

Can't blame White for doing his own thing. It's worked out well for him so far. On the night of Feb. 11, as he drops in for his final halfpipe run at the Rosa Khutor Extreme Park in the Caucasus Mountains, what will be at stake? Will he be seeking redemption for a disappointing performance in slopestyle three nights earlier? Or will he be aiming for a second medal? Will a certain brash Canadian have been served a comeuppance? You'll probably want to turn on the TV and pull up a chair. Or a couchi.







DNCE THE DDMINANT FORCE IN INTERNATIONAL PLAY. RUSSIAN HOCKEY HASN'T BEEN THE SAME SINCE THE DEMISE OF THE SOVIET UNION, CAN ALEX DVECHKIN LEAD HIS COUNTRY TO ITS FIRST GOLD MEDAL SINCE 1992? VI ADIMIR PILTIN EXPECTS HIM TO

BY MICHAEL FARBER

Photograph by SIMON BRUTY/SPORTS ILLUSTRATED



HELP ME, OVIE-WAN Ovechkin, the NHL's leading goal scorer this season, had seven goals in the last two Olympics but is still seeking his first medal.

THERE ARE 83 nations expected to compete in the five-ring circus that is the Winter Olympics, and so there are nearly as many visions of the existential meaning of Sochi 2014. For Austria, the Games are

one big ski hill. For the Netherlands, they are a speedskating meet. Viewed through the prism of the host nation, the Olympics are a hockey tournament; everything else is basically Lycra and sequins. Ice dancing twirlers and full-throated curlers, aerial tricksters and snowboard hipsters . . . they are all spear carriers in a grand opera that climaxes with the last event, the men's hockey final on Feb. 23 at Bolshoy Ice Dome. "This is unfair

> to all other athletes," says Igor Larionov, a Hockey Hall of Famer who won two gold medals for the Soviet Union in the 1980s. "but if Russia wins bockey and no other medals, this Olympics will have been a success." Seven years in the planning and 17 days in the execution, Russia's \$50 billion winterlude will be distilled into 60 minutes-assuming Team Russia even gets to the final.

The home team is no lock. Since the dawn of the Olympics' NHL era in 1998, the six traditional hockey powers (Canada, the Czech Republic, Finland, Russia, Sweden and the United States) have all reached at least one final, Russia has won two medals, though never gold, losing to the Czechs in the final in Nagano in '98 and finishing third in Salt Lake City in 2002, Given Team Russia's firepower during this stretch-Pavel Bure, Sergei Fedorov, Pavel Datsyuk, Ilya Kovalchuk, Alex Ovechkin and Evgeni Malkinthis is thin gruel. The comforts of home ice in Sochi, the 200-by-100-foot international ice surface compared to the narrower (by 15 feet) NHL rink used in Vancouver four years ago, will offer some advantage, but the Russians have not exactly been Zamboniing the world in major hockey events in their country. Since '00 Russia has been the host of two world championships and two world junior tournaments. The result: three bronze medals. Given giddy Olympic expectations (Bure proclaimed Russia the "indisputable" favorite) a bronze tint to the home team's performance in Sochi would vaguely resemble the color of dirt.

Since the formation of the first Soviet hockey league in 1946 a gold medal match featuring Team Russia would be the most significant game ever played on Russian ice. (The decisive Game 8 loss of the '72 Summit

BUKDR/PRUTERS (BIYALETBINOY); DAVID E. KLUTHO FOR SPORTS ILLUSTRAT

Series in Moscow? Not even close. The Soviets, technically amateurs, had already proved they were Canada's equals.) The quest for the country's first Olympic gold since 1992-the shards of the Soviet Union. known as the Unified Team. beat Canada 3-1 in the Albertville final-would be tense even if there were no emotional embroidery. But the vise has been tightened because of Russia's embarrassing 7-3 loss to Canada in the quarterfinals in Vancouver four years ago. The Canadians, in the slam poetry of backup Russian goalie Ilva Bryzgalov, burst onto the ice "like gorillas coming out of a cage" and inflicted a defeat seared deeply into the soul of Russian hockey.

"Russia was humiliated in Vancouver," Larionov says.
"And obviously when you have Russian pride, you want to show the world you are still a mighty country, that you can still compete in nuclear weap-ons with the U.S. and that you can do better than Canada or the U.S. in hockey."

"The Sochi Olympics is the flag the whole country is carrving," says Igor Kuperman, Team Russia's assistant GM in 2002, who now lives in Toronto. "They want to show everybody the country is great, thriving. This has become like a former socialist-Communist thing. All the stuff vou're reading-Obama, [Edward] Snowden-makes it seem like we're back into the '70s or '80s This is bigger than Canada playing for gold in Vancouver. If Canada lost, it's just Canadian hockey that would have lost, If Russia loses, it's the country that loses."

Vladimir Putin, the

RETURN TO SLORY
Bilyaletdinov
(below, in tie),
is using his
international and
NHL coaching
experience to
change Russia's
outdated
approach.







shinny-playing president of the Russian Federation, laid his prestige on the line seven years ago when he went to Guatemala to lobby the IOC on behalf of a resort city on the Black Sea. As much as Atlanta in 1996 was the Coca-Cola Olympics, Sochi in 2014 will be the Putin Games. Presumably he anticipates nothing short of victory from Ovechkin and Malkin, who, when the NHL was being cov about whether it would allow its players to participate in the Games, repeatedly vowed to play in their home country

even if the league would not. "I imagine the pressure will

be pretty crushing," says Paul MacLean, the Senators' coach. "The [Canadian] prime minister was at the final in 2010. The difference is, [Stephen] Harper's not telling you what two guys he wants out on the penalty kill."

IKHAIL BURBACHEV resigned on Dec. 25, 1991, abolishing the position of president of the Soviet Union.

A nation imploded. The initial thought at the time for a

17-year-old defenseman from Chelyabinsk was not about his country's future, but his own. "You know something's going on, it's all over TV, but you're thinking about what you're going to do with your teammates," says the Stars' 39-year-old Sergei Gonchar, who played in four Olympics. "Obviously I wasn't thinking about the big picture."

In 2005, Putin called the demise of the Soviet Union "the greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the [20th] century," but the death rattles in those tumultuous final days did not strike Russians that way, certainly not those who played hockey. Soviet hockey, in essence, was Russian hockey. Other than occasional outliers. such as flamboyant Latvian winger Helmut Balderis, the U.S.S.R.'s players were native Russians, The Soviet Union already had been cratering-by 1990 the three Baltic countries (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) had declared independence, and nine days before Gorbachev's resignation Kazakhstan became the final Soviet republic to bolt-but there was no immediate sense that, from the new order, the Invishockey equivalent of the NRA's clear-out offense. Raised in a socialist country, bivouacked together for months, the ultimate team players became hockey capitalists. Before we were all even," Conchar says. "Everything was about our country or [the] Party, Now we saw there was another way of viewing life."

Liberated but not necessarily improved, Russian hockey was tiptoeing into the world of I-got-mine. Obviously the trait is neither uniquely nor universally Russian—Datsyuk is impeccably unselfish and Malkin is an exceptional vidualism. Everyone wants to show off. . . I think we lost [in Vancouver] because the Canadians had so much team spirit. Their team had star players but did not look to present itself in a way where anyone stood out. But our team, especially when we start to lose or are a goal down, stops playing as a united team?

"The goal or the scoring chance is created by five people, not one," Larionov says. "Some think that in order to save the country, you have to go one-on-five."

Larionov was the center on the U.S.S.R.'s famed Green detail-oriented ex-defenseman who has worked both sides of the international street. His long résumé is trumped only by his longer name: Zinetula Khaidarovich Bilyaletdinov. Twenty-two years after the Unified Team, Coach Bil will have to unify a team,

ARI/IN the 1996-97 season the Coyotes were taking their customary game-day skate in Boston. These practices are generally cursory—line rushes, breakouts, maybe faceoff work—slotted for no more than 30 minutes. But when

ALBERTVILLE 1992
Playing as the Unified Team, Russia won gold by beating the U.S. 5-2 in the semifinals and then defeating Canada 3-1 in the gold medal game (left).



LILLEHAMMER 1994

The Russians' four th-place finish ended with e 4-0 loss in the bronze medal geme to Finlend (left), to whom they had also fellen 5-0 during group play.



NAGANO 1998
In the first
Olympics to
feature NHL
players (such
as Fedorov,
91, and
defenseman
Alexei Gusarov)
Russia lost the
Czech Republic.

ible Hand of Adam Smith, the 18th-century political economist, would ball itself into a fist and punch Russian hockey in the gut.

As Soviet infrastructure crumbled, more Russian players migrated to the NHL. But the most striking reflection of the tectonic shift in economic and political systems was not in where Russians were playing hockey but how. Once, Soviet teams had passed the puck with so much flarit that then olly thing missing was "Sweet Georgia Brown." Suddenly, Russians were discovering the

distributor—but individualism was in vogue. Among the most dazzling soloists in those days was Alexei Kovalev, who scored 430 NHL goals in a 20-year career that ended in March 2013. Today it is Ovechkin who can beat an opponent all by himself, and who has been known to try.

"it's hard to detach yourself, not from your pride but from the sense you should be the leader of the [national] team," says Kovalev, of all people, who played in three Olympics winning gold in 1992—and was the Russian captain in 2006. "We have too much indiUnit in the 1980s, an era when Soviet oaches would, according to Flyers assistant coach John Paddock, roll five-man units with little overriding "urgency to get their best players out there more." There was something quaint in the approach, an echo of childhood when everyone got a trophy

at the end-of-season banquet.
In Sochi, at least Russia's
coaching will be all grown
up. The adult in the room will
be Paddock's former assistant
with the old Winnipeg Jets
(from 1993 to '95), a direct, occasionally dour and undeniably

Bilyaletdinov (bil-ya-let-DEEnow), then a Phoenix assistant, supervised practice, he could be be Tolstoy with a whistle epic. As lunch hour approached, Coyotes players might still have been attentive, but FleetCenter workers had seen enough. They shut the lights. "One more drill," MacLean, then a fellow Phoenix assistant, recalls, in a cartoon Russian accent. "With Bil. always. "One more drill."

Bilyaletdinov was a Soviet national team defenseman until his retirement in 1988, a powerful skater, especially backward, who specialized in the fading In the early 1990s, Win-

"When Coach Bil was talking, players' eves got wider because they were paying close attention." Smith hired Bilyaletdinov as an assistant coach in 1993. After spending '96-97 with the Covotes, he went home to coach Dynamo, Smith, later the Blackhawks' GM, brought him to Chicago for most of the 2000-01 season, although, Smith says, coach Alpo Suhonen, who already had two assistants, did not want Bilyaletdinov on the ice during practice. European teams certainly did. Bilvaletdinov coached Lugano in Switzerland

in '01-02, returned for a second

was easy for them," Smith says. "Once the system broke down. they needed to learn how to communicate with players, how to build a foundation of trust. The players trusted Bil immediately."

Organizationally, Russian hockey often has been a stride behind the rest of the game. In recent Olympics, the erstwhile Big Red Machine seemed to be running Windows 95. According to Kuperman, Olympic coach Vladimir Krikunov said before the 2006 tournament. "I don't have to watch [Russian players] playing in the NHL. I just read game summaries also toured the NHL, eveballing Russians but also scouting opposing players.

Russians had scouted during the actual tournaments but not before, until now," Kuperman says, "Bryzgalov was saying [in the Russian media] that the coach's whole speech before the [2010] Canada game was basically, 'Guys, go get them.' Other players said it was, 'Rah, rah, rah,' [The coaches] knew Sidney Crosby, but they didn't know [Corey] Perry, Didn't know [Ryan] Getzlaf. They knew the names. but [Perry and Getzlaf] were just two young guys to them."



SALT LAKE CITY After losing to the U.S. 3-2 in the semifinals (left), Russia von the bronze medal with a 7-2 victory over Belarus, once a Soviet

renublic



TURIN 2006 In failing to reach the podium, Russia was outscored 7-0 in its last two games, including a 3-0 loss to the Czechs in the bronze medal game [left].



VANCOUVER 2010 Russia again failed to win a medal of any kind after getting steamrollered 7-3 in the quarterfinals by eventual champion

Canada.

nipeg GM Mike Smith, the NHL's leading Russophile, forged strong ties with Dynamo. The relationship included player exchanges. Smith invited Dynamo players to a lets training camp in 1991, and Bilyaletdinov, then a Dynamo assistant, tagged along as a chaperone. Smith had admired Bilvaletdinov as one of the new breed of rugged Russian players. Now he was impressed with his coaching. "When you watch players getting coaching, either their eves will get wider or their eves will get narrower," Smith says.

Dynamo stint and then took over the Russian professional team Ak Bars Kazan, winning a Superleague championship in '05-06 and KHL titles in '08-09 and '09-10, as well as the continent's club crown, the Europeans Champions Cup, in '07. He also coached Team Russia for part of '04-05, Following the Vancouver thrashing four years ago-Russian coach Vyacheslav Bykov looked overwhelmed behind the bench-Bilvaletdinov was reappointed to the job in 2011.

"When coaches had the hammer in the Soviet days, it and everything is clear to me." The pre-Olympic scouting for 2010 was murky. "Bykoy and [assistant Igor] Zakharkin did have a scout, but when the media asked who, they said, 'It's a secret,' " Larionov says, "It didn't make sense to me: the unknown scout." In advance of Sochi, Russia has finally entered the 21st century, employing ex-NHL players Igor Kravchuk and Nikolai Borschevsky as North American scouts. Bilvaletdinov. GM Alexei Kasatonov and Russian hockey federation president Vladislay Tretiak

DUR YEARS ago a disjointed Russian team had 14 players from the NHL and nine from the KHL. In Sochi, the split is 16 and nine. No other favorite will be obliged to blend as many players from the world's top two professional leagues. "Zinetula Khaidarovich has a knack for this," says Kovalev, using Bilyaletdinov's patronymic. Hurricanes winger Alexander Semin, after playing on Russia's gold medal team at the 2012 world championship, praised Coach Bil's emphasis on discipline and puck posses-





Proud Partner

kind of player.

Team Russia has a cavalcade of all-universe forwards, including Datsvuk, Kovalchuk, Malkin and the irrepressible Ovechkin, the NHL's leading goal scorer. Regardless of how Bilyaletdinov deploys his wingers, the lines centered by Datsvuk and Malkin are matchup nightmares. But the other forwards are not so easy on the eyes. The top defenseman is Markov, who is clever but is also a step below the best blueliners for Team Canada, Goaltending has often disappointed-"Since Vladislay Tretiak left the sport [in 1984], we've always had problems with the goal," says Boris Mikhailov, captain of the 1972 Summit Series team-but the Russians have a credible pair in Sochi. Sergei Bobrovsky of the Blue Jackets was the best goalie in the lockout-shortened 2013 NHL regular season, but the Avalanche's Semyon Var-

lamov, whose save percentage has been significantly higher than Bobrovsky's in '13-14, is the presumptive starter.

If Russia plays the Coach Bil way, success might come down to one save.

"The coach is conservative-avoid the fun stuff," Larionov said. "For Russia, it doesn't matter

how you play . . . 1-0 or 0-0 and a shootout. It's all about the gold medal, not entertainment. You don't have to advertise the [most eye-catching] hockey. But for two weeks, who cares? You follow directions. Whoever jells wins the tournament,"

The 58-year-old coach has accepted challenges before. (In Winnipeg, Bilyaletdinov spent hours trying to refine the skills of willing but ham-



handed defenseman Brent Thompson.) He has a philosophy, and unlike the seemingly overmatched Bykov, a clue. "My view is, he's an NHL coach who happens to be coaching the Russians," says the Blues' Ken Hitchcock, a Team Canada assistant, Now Bilyaletdinov merely has to negotiate a field that

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olympics

includes stacked Sweden, dangerous Team USA and defending champion Canada, and, on Feb. 23, triumph in the \$50 billion hockey game. A nation waits. Putin watches, If Coach Bil delivers, he will be the toughest mother

in all Russia.

MEN'S HOCKEY

No Surprises

THE ILS. WAS A DARK HORSE WHEN IT WON A SILVER MEDAL IN VANCOUVER, BUT THIS TIME ARRIVED THE WORLD IS EXPECTING THE AMERICANS TO CHALLENGE FOR GOLD. BY SARAH KWAK

YOUNG AND INEXPERIENCED, Team USA saw itself as an underdog four years ago in Vancouver. The Americans nevertheless came within a goal of winning their first gold medal since 1980. Now, the underdog label no longer applies. In Sochi the U.S. will have 13 players from that silver-medal-winning team, including nine forwards and goalie Ryan Miller, the 2010 Olympic MVP.

> With skill and depth at every position the U.S. roster, on paper, is among the world's best. "The quantity and especially the quality of U.S. hockey players is growing at a fantastic rate." GM David Poile said after naming the team on Jan. 1.

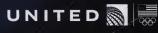
The depth is most evident in the caliber of players Team USA did not select; 2010 Olympians Bobby Ryan, Erik Johnson, Jack Johnson and Tim Thomas will not be in Sochi-the same goes for Keith Yandle and Oustin Byfuglien, the U.S.'s highest-scoring defensemen since '10. Poile has stressed the importance of skating and versatility. not just scoring, to the roster. "We've medaled

in North America, both in Salt Lake City (in '02) and in Vancouver [in '10], but we have not medaled in Europe." he said. "That's why we [needed] to make some changes."

On Europe's bigger ice, quickness becomes more important. The U.S. will lean on such swift skaters as wingers Phil Kessel of the Maple Leafs and Patrick Kane (above, 88) of the Blackhawks. The roster is rounded out by such versatile players as Blues winger T.J. Oshie, who will be making his Olympic debut. He can be plugged in on the top line or on the penalty kill; his shootout skills are a bonus.

Oshie also plays on one of the NHL's hottest lines alongside David Backes, one of Team USA's five centers. In a short tournament, established chemistry is a prime asset. Penguins defenseman Brooks Orpik will have regular partner Paul Martin, and Kessel will skate on a line with James van Riemsdyk, just as he does in Toronto.

The U.S. has put together a tough and mobile group. But the lack of a No. 1 center (Joe Pavelski, who skates on the Sharks' second line, comes closest) could stunt its offensive potential. Wild defenseman Ryan Suter will serve as both the backbone of the blue line and the team's primary puck distributor. But expect the last line of defensewhether it's Miller or 2012 Conn Smythe winner Jonathan Quick in goal-to give the U.S. its best chance to live up to its new billing; gold medal contender.



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WILL REACH THE POOLUM IN ALL 98 EVENTS:

BY BRIAN CAZENEUVE

ALPINE SKIING

MEN

DOWNHILL

- Aksel Lund Svindal, Norway Hannes Reichelt Austria
- Erik Guay, Canada
- When not flying down mountains, Reichelt pilots his own plane.

SUPER-G

- Aksel Lund Svindal, Norway Patrick Kuend, Switzerland
- Georg Streitberger, Austria
- Defending champ Syindal, 31, leads the World Cup standings in downhill Super-Gandoverall.

GIANT SLAIDM

- Marcel Hirscher, Austria
- Ted lidety IIS
- Mexis Pinturault, France Part Norwegian, Pinturault has

dual citizenship

- SLALDM Marrel Hirscher Austria
- Felix Neurauther, Germany
- Mario Matt. Austria

- Hirscher is a two-time overall World Cup champ.

COMBINED

- 2 II vtebil heT
- Alexis Pinturault, France
- Aksel Lund Svindal, Norway
- Lidety started his own ski equipment company.

- DOWNHILL
- Mania Hoeft-Riesch, Germany
- Marianne Kaufmann-Abderhalden, Switzerland
- Tina Maze, Slovenia Maze is one of six women to have won World

Cup races in all five disciplines.

SUPER-6

- Lara Gut, Switzerland
- Anna Fenninger, Austria
- Tina Weirather, Liechtenstein

All nine of Liechtenstein's medals have come

in Aloine skiine.

- GIANT STALDM Jessica Lindell-Vikarby Sweden
 - Mania Pietilae-Holmner Sweden
 - Anna Fenninger, Austria
 - Lindell-Vikarby will turn 30 on the day the Games open.

SLALDM

Mikaela Shiffrin II S

 Marlies Schild, Austria Frida Hansdotter, Sweden Schild, 32, had five knee surgeries

by age 19.

COMBINED

Nicole Hosp, Austria

- Marie-Michele Gagnon, Canada
- Maria Hoeft-Riesch, Germany Hoeft-Riesch is also nationally ranked in tennis.

BIATHLON

- IDK SPRINT
- Martin Fourcade, France
- Emil Hegle Svendsen, Norway
- Ole Einer Bjørndalen, Norway Martin's older brother. Simon, is a medal threat too.

12 SK PHRSHIT

- Emil Hegle Svendsen, Norway
- Martin Fourcade, France
- Simon Schemop, Germany
- Syendsen has at least one world title in each event

15K MASS START

- Alexey Volkov, Russia Tariei Ba. Norway
- Martin Fourcade, France
- Be won this event and two others at the 2013 worlds

20K INDIVIDUAL

- Emil Hegle Svendsen, Norway
- Martin Fourcade, France
- Evdeni Ustvudov, Russia Lake Placid's Tim Burke took silver in this race at the world championships.
- 4×7.5K RELAY

Norway Germany

Team Norway includes 40-year-old legend Die Einar Biamdaten.

WIMEN

25K SPRINT

- Tora Berger, Norway
- Darya Domracheva, Belarus
- Kaisa Makarainen, Finland Berger was Norway's sportsperson of the

vear in 2012 **10K PHRSUIT**

- Kaisa Makarainen, Finland
- Tora Berger, Norway
- Valj Semerenko, Ukraine
- Vali's twin sister, Vita, is also an Dlympian.

12.5K MASS START

- Oarva Oomracheva, Belarus Tora Berger, Norway
- Andrea Henkel, Germany Henkel is dating U.S. team member Tim Burke.

15K INDIVIDUAL

- Babriela Soukalova, Czech Republic
- Darva Domracheva, Belarus
- Tora Berger, Norway Domracheva once shot 500 hours of material.
- for a biathlon documentary about her.
- 4 × 8K RFLAY
- Norway
- Germany Ruccia
- Berger erased a 40-second deficit to lead Norway to world gold in 2013.

MIXED RELAY

Norway

Czech Republic

France

Twenty-one nations have won highlion medals, but not the U.S.

BOBSLED MEN

TWD-MAN

- Switzerland (driver: Beat Hefti)
- II S (driver: Steve Holcomb) Germany (driver: Francesco Friedrich)
- The last U.S. medal in this event came in 1952,
- FRUR-MAN
- U.S. (driver Steve Holcomb)
- Russia (driver Alexander Zubkov) Germany (driver: Maximilian Arndt)
- The U.S. took gold in Vancouver, its first since 1948 in St. Moritz.

WOMEN

- TWD-WDMAN
- Canada (driver: Kaillie Humphries) . U.S. (driver: Elana Mevers)
- . U.S. (driver: Jamie Greubel) Humphries's husband, Dan, was an
- Olympic sledder for Great Britain and for Canada.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

MEN

- 1.4K SPRINT (FREE) Nikita Kriukov, Russia
- Federico Pellegrino, Italy Alex Harvey, Canada
- Harvey's dad, Pierre, was a ski and cycling Olympian.



PROIFCTFO MFDAI COUNT

THE U.S. WON'T DUITE MATCH ITS RECORD PERFORMANCE IN VANCOUVER.

COUNTRY		-	1		
	SOLO	STEVER	BRONZE	TOTAL	2010 TOT,
NORWAY	13	12	10	35	23 (4)
U.S.	13	12	9	34	37 (1)
CANADA	12	В	11	31	26 (3)
GERMANY	8	8	14	30	30 (2)
RUSSIA	9	10	6	25	15 (6)
AUSTRIA	5	9	5	19	16 (5)
THE NETHERLANDS	7	4	2	13	B (12)
SOUTH KOREA	5	5	3	13	14 (7)
SWEDEN	2	6	5	13	11 (T-B)
FRANCE	3	3	5	11	11 (1-8)
CHINA	3	4	3	10	11 (T-B)
SWITZERLAND	3	3	3	9	9 (11)
CZECH REPUBLIC	: 2	3	1	6	6 (T-13)

NORWAY'S

AKSFI LIIND SVTNDAL



TEAM SPRINT (CLASSIC)

- Ruesia
- Norway Sweden
- Just 1.5 seconds separated the top three teams in Vancouver.

15K CLASSIC

Alexey Poltoranin, Kazakhstan

- . Inhan Disson Sweden Hannes Dotzler, Germany
- Kazakhstan's one Winter gold came in crosscountry skiing, in 1994.

30K SKIATHLON

- Alexander Legkov, Russia
- Martin Johnsrud Sundby, Norway
- Dario Cologna, Switzerland Sundby is coached by his younger brother Sondre.

50K MASS START (FREE)

- Martin Johnsrud Sundby, Norway
- Mexander Legkov, Russia
- Petter Northug, Norway Northug, winner of four Divrnoic medals, has been battling a virus for months.
- 4×10K RELAY
- Russia
- o Sweden

Russia took third at 2013 worlds but has never won an Dlympic medal in this event.

1.2K SPRINT (FREE)

- Kikkan Randatt U.S.
- Marit Bjørgen, Norway
- Denise Hermann, Germany Randall was an Alaska champ in speed
 - skiing (going straight downhill) and crosscountry running.

TEAM SPRINT (CLASSIC)

- Norway Sweden
- U.S.
- The U.S. won this event at the 2013 worlds.

10K CLASSIC

- Justyna Kowalczyk, Poland Yulia Chekaleva, Russia
- Therese Johaué, Norway Like teammate Bjørgen, Johaus grew up on a farm

15K SKIATHLON

- Justyna Kowalczyk, Poland Anne Kyllönen, Finland
- Kristin Størmer Steira, Norway Kowalczyk won three medals in 2010.

30K MASS START (FREE)

- Therese Johaug, Norway
- Marit Biørgen, Norway Justyna Kowalczyk, Poland
- Bjørgen has won 19 world championship medals, including 12 golds.
- 4×5K RELAY
- Norway
- Russia Sweden
- Norway leads the alltime cross-country table in Divrocic medals (96) and golds (35).

CHRIING

MEN

- Canada
- Sweden
- Rreat Britain
- Canada has won gold or silver at nine straight world championships.

WOMEN

- Great Britain
- Sweden Canada
- British skin Eve Muirhead 23 also
- toiled at the world bagpiping championships as a teenager.

FIGURE SKATING

- Yuzuru Hanyu, Japan
- Patrick Chan, Canada Javier Fernandez, Spain
- Hanyu's house was damaged by the tsunami

WOMEN

- Kim Yu-na South Knowa
- Julia Lionitskaia, Russia
- Man Asada Janan
- Kim has sune with several recording artists in South Korea

PAIRS Tatiana Volosozhar and Maxim Trankov.

- Aliona Saychenko and Robin Szolkowy.
- Germany Ksenia Stolbova and Fedor Klimov.
- Russia Trankov writes lyrics for his favorite music genre: hip-hop.

ICE DANCING

- Meryl Davis and Charlie White, U.S.
- Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir, Canada Nathalie Péchalat and Fabian Bourzat France
- Multilingual Péchalat earned a business degree in Moscow.

TEAM

- Canada Russia
- · U.S.
- Three-time Olympic medalist Evgeni Plushenko Russia's men's entrant is the wild card

FREESTYLE SKIING

AERIALS

Qi Guangpu, China

- Liu Zhongqing, China Anton Kushnir, Belarus
- The five Divringic winners have hailed from five different countries.

MOGULS Mikael Kingsbury, Canada

- Alex Bilodeau, Canada
- Patrick Beneen, ILS.
- As a teenager Deneen was a champion in the equestrian sport of reining.

SKLCROSS David Duncan, Canada

- Andreas Matt. Austria Victor Dehling Norberg, Sweden
- With Brady Leman and Chris del Bosco, a Canadian sweep is possible



middling results since the breakup of the Soviet Union. Russia-which slumped to 15 medals, just three of them gold, in Vancouveris under pressure to win big in Sochi. Two thirds of its young team (average age: 22.5) are first-time Olympians. Most prominent among them is Lipnitskaia, 15, who in January became the youngest-ever European champion. On the same ice where she'll try for gold. however, veteran Viktor Ahn. 28, could be Russia's true medal machine. He has a shot to win four in shorttrack speedskating.





FFITX INCH

Loch became his sport's youngest gold medalist when he won in Vancouver at age 20. A four-time world singles champion, he enters Sochi as the strong favorite on a team of dominant German sliders, who have clinched World Cup titles this season in every discipline. At 6' 3" Loch is one of the sport's tallest competitors. He is coached by his father, Norbert, a 1984 Olympic luger for East Germany. In Sochi, Team Germany will count on its lugers, bobsledders and Alpine skiers to keep it in the medal race.

HALEPIPE

- David Wise, U.S.
- Aamn Blunck II S
- Justin Borey, Canada
- Married at 20 and a youth pastor. Wise is known as "the Undude"

SLOPESTYLE

- Nick Goepper, U.S.
- . Bobby Brown, U.S.
- Jesper Tiader, Sweden The last two world champs, Tom Wallisch

and Alex Schloov, didn't make the U.S. team.

WOMEN

- AFRIALS
- Zhang Xin, China
- Li Nina, China
- Ivrija I accila Australia Olympic champ Lassila took two years off to

have a baby. MIRRIMS

- Hannah Kearney, U.S.
- Justine Dufour-Langinte, Canada · Chine Bufour-Langinte Canada
- A third Outour-Lapointe sister, Maxime, is also on Canada's team.

- SKLERDSS
- Marielle Thompson, Canada
- Fanny Smith, Switzerland
- Katrin Mueller Switzerland For the second straight Olympics, U.S. women failed to qualify in this event.

- Maddie Browman, ILS
- Devin Logan, U.S.
- Amy Sheehan, Australia Angeli Vanlaanen overcame Lyme disease to make the II S team

SUPPESTALE

- Dara Howell, Canada
- Meri Herman, U.S.

Olympian since 1972.

HOCKEY

MEN

- Sweden
- Russia Canada
- U.S. men last won an Olympic hockey medal in Europe in 1956.

WOMEN 2.11 🔵

- Canada 🌑
- Finland
- The U.S. and Canada have met for gold in all 15 world championships.

LUGE

MEN

- SINGLES
- Felix Loch, Germany
- Armin Zöggeler, Italy
- David Möller, Germany Zöddeler, 40, could become the first athlete to

win six medals in an individual event

- Tobias Wendl and Tobias Artt, Germany
- Toni Eggert and Sascha Benecken, Germany Peter Penz and Georg Fischler Austria

WendI and Arlt have won three of the last four overall World Cup titles

WOMEN SINGLES

- Natalie Geisenberger, Germany
- Tatjana Hufner, Germany Alex Gough, Canada
- German women have won 10 of the last 12 Olympic medals.

 Lisa Zimmermann, Germany Maggie Voisin, 15, is the youngest U.S.

MIXED RELAY

- Sermany Italy
- Austria
- Stiders from German- or Italian-speaking
- nations have won 39 of 40 Olympic luge golds.

NORDIC COMBINED

NORMAL HILL

- Jason Lamy Chappuis, France Haavard Klemetsen, Norway
- Eric Frenzel, Germany
- A French border patrol officer, Lamy-Chappuis was hom in Montana
- LARGE HILL
- Eric Frenzel, Germany
- Magnus Krog, Norway
- Mikko Kokslein, Norway
- Todd Lodwick and Bill Demong of the U.S. have
- combined to make 11 Olympic teams.

TFAM

- Germany
- Austria
- Norway
- Norway has won 11 Nordic combined golds. No
- other country has more than four

SKELETON

- Martins Oukurs, Latvia Alexander Tretiakov, Russia
- - Tomass Dukurs, Latvia Younder brother Martins is a three-time Latvian sportsman of the year.

- Elizabeth Yarnold, Great Britain
- Moelle Pikus-Pace II S
- Shelley Rudman, Great Britain

Pikus-Pace nearly lost her led when she was struck by a bobsled in 2005.

SKI JUMPING

NORMAL HILL

- Anders Bardal, Norway
- Peter Prevc, Slovenia
- Thomas Diethart, Germany
- Prevo is nicknamed Muscle for his trademark fist pumps

LARGE HILL

- Peter Previr Slovenia
- Gredor Schüerenzauer, Austria
- Kamil Stoch, Poland Schlierenzauer's uncle is Austrian lude dreat

Markue Prock

TEAM Austria

- Germany
- Norway
 - Japan's Norialo Kasai is in his seventh fillymnics

NORMAL HILL

- Sara Takanashi, Japan
- Sarah Hendrickson, U.S. Carina Vogt, Germany
- Takanashi. 17. has eight victories in nine events this season.

SNOWBOARDING

- HALFPIPE
- Shaun White, ILS. Avumu Hirano, Japan
- Yuri Podladchikov, Switzerland Podladchikov, whose nickname is iPod.

competed for his native Russia in 2006. PARALLEL GIANT SLALOM

- Žan Košir, Slovenia
- Lukas Mathies, Austria Vic Wild Russia

Slovenia is looking for its first Winter gold. PARALLEL SLALOM

- Sylvain Dufour, France
- Andreas Prommegger, Austria
- Žan Košir, Slovenia
- U.S. boarder Justin Reiter has been living in his truck to defray costs.

SUMPESTALE

- Mark McMorris, Canada
- Torstein Horgmo, Norway Sebastien Toutant, Canada McMorris and his brother, Craig, are the
- subjects of an MTV series



SNOWBOARDCROSS

- Markus Schairer, Austria Brnar Visintin, Italy
- Jarryd Hughes, Australia Australia's two-time world champ.

Alex (Chumpy) Pullin, has struggled this season

WOMEN

- HALFPIPE Torah Bright, Australia
- Kelly Clark II.S.
- · Arielle Gold, U.S.
- Arielle is one of three Golds on the U.S. team.

- PARALLEL BLANT SLALBM Isabella Labock, Germany
- Julia Duimovits Austria
- Tomoka Takeuchi, Japan
- U.S. women did not qualify for PS or for PGS.

PARALLEL STALOM

- Patrizia Kummer, Switzerland
- Ester Ledecka, Czech Republic Amelia Kober, Germany
- Kober was pregnant when she competed in 2010.

SLOPESTYLE

- Jamie Anderson, U.S.
- Spencer B'Brien, Canada
- Sarko Pancochova, Czech Republic Anderson was 16 when she won an X Games title in 2007
- SNOWBOARDCROSS
- Maelle Ricker Canada
- Helene Blafsen, Norway Onminique Maltais Canada
- Ricker doesn't recall the crash that knocked her out at the 2006 Games.

SPEEDSKATING (LONG-TRACK)

- 500 METERS
- Michel Mulder, Netherlands Mo Tae-hum South Korea
- . Inii Kata Janan
- Mulder's twin brother. Ronald, could also medal.

1 000 METERS

- Shani Bavis, U.S.
- Kjeld Nuis, Netherlands
- Benis Kuzin, Kazakhstan
- Kuzin nearly quit the sport after a shoulder injury in 2012.
- 1.500 METERS
- Benis Yuskov Russia Koen Verweii, Netherlands
- Shani Bavis, ILS. Davis has two Olympic silvers and the world

record in this event. 5 DOD METERS

- Sven Kramer, Netherlands
 - Jorrit Bergsma, Netherlands Lee Seung-hoon, South Korea Bentsma abandoned a plan to skate for

Kazakhstan in 2010 after learning he'd have to give up his Outch citizenship.

- 10,000 METERS Jorrit Bergsma, Netherlands
- Sven Kramer, Netherlands Bob de Jong, Netherlands
- Kramer lost gold in Vancouver after being 00'd for committing a lane violation.
- TEAM PURSUIT Netherlands
- South Korea

- The Dutch have the most Olympic oval medals (B2), but the U.S. has the most golds (29)

WOMEN

- SOO METERS
- Lee Sang-hwa, South Korea Yu Jing, China
- Heather Richardson, U.S. Lee has a fascination with Lego.

1.000 METERS

- Dlga Fatkulina, Russia
- Heather Richardson, U.S.
- Zhang Hong, China Richardson is engaged to Bergsma

1.500 METERS

- Ireen Wüst, Netherlands Brittany Bowe, U.S.
- Yuliya Skokova, Russia Wust was just 19 when she won the

3.000 in Turin.

- 3 BOD METERS
- Ireen Wüst, Netherlands
- Martina Sábliková, Czech Republic Claudia Pechstein, Germany

Pechstein is a sergeant in the German Federal Police

5 000 METERS

- Martina Sábliková, Czech Republic Claudia Pechstein Germany
- Yvonne Nauta, Netherlands
- There are no speedskating ovals in Sábliková's home country.

TEAM PURSUIT Netherlands

@ Poland

- @ Canada
 - The Outch women have never won an Olympic medal in team pursuit.

SPEEDSKATING (SHORT-TRACK)

- 500 METERS
 - Viktor Ahn, Russia Charles Hamelin, Canada
 - Wu Bajing, China
 - Korean-born Ahn Hyun-soo, now Viktor Ahn.
 - became a Russian citizen in 2011.

- 1 BBB METERS Chartes Hamelin, Canada
- Viktor Ahn Russia
- Wu Bailing, China Hamelin's father Yves, runs Canada's

national team.

1.500 METERS

- Charles Hamelin, Canada
- Lee Han-bin, South Korea Viktor Ahn, Russia
- Look for 2010 bronze medalist J.R. Celski of
- the U.S. to challenge.

5 000-METER RELAY Canada

- Russia ...
- 211
 - The U.S. has taken third in this event at the last two Games

WOMEN 500 METERS

- Fan Kevin China
- Shim Suk-hee, South Korea
- · Park Seung-hi, South Korea Favorite Wand Mend of China is out with a broken ankle.

1 000 METERS

- Shirn Suk-hee, South Korea Arianna Fontana, İtaly
- · Kim A-lang, South Korea A season ago. Shim won her first World Dun-

race, at age 15.

1.500 METERS

- Shim Suk-hee, South Korea
- Kim A-lang, South Korea Valerie Maltais, Canada
- South Koreans have won two medals in this event at each Olympics.

3 DOD-METER RELAY

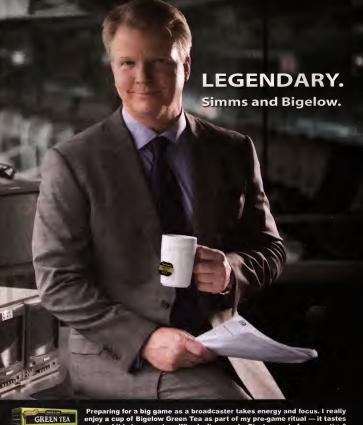
- South Korea China
- Italy
- The U.S. got bronze in 2010 but didn't qualify in 2014.



SPEEDSKATING

HEATHER RICHARDSON

With no ice ovals in her native North Carolina, Richardson, (whose parants grew up competing on old-fashionad four-wheel roller skates) started in-line skating as a child. Sha switched to the ice at age 18, and three years later raced in a trio of events at the 2010 Olympics, where she finished as high as sixth. She won the 2013 world sprint championship and last month fended off teammate and friend Brittany Bowe, a former point quard at Florida Atlantic and a fellow in-line convert, to win the 500, 1,000 and 1,500 meters at the U.S. trials. Between Richardson. 24, and Bowe, 25, the U.S. hopes to end a 12-year medal drought for its femala long-track skaters.









- Phil Simms

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What I Learned Last Week

A RV DICHADO SHEDMAN



No one hos ever
mode himself great
by showing how small

someone else is Somebody tweeted that at me after we beat the 49ers in the NFC title game. If I could pass a lesson on to the kids, it would be this: Don't attack anybody. I shouldn't have attacked Michael Crabtree the way I did. You don't have to put anybody else down to make yourself bigger.

2. This stage is bigger than I thought it was How much does America love football? My one little rant made it onto CNBC and CNN. I heard my name on The View. I get tweets in English, Spanish, French, Italian, Czech and Arabic (or what I think is Arabic). People identify with the struggle and the battle of a football game.

3. Sometimes you hove to shut it down There came a point in the reaction to my Fox interview that I had to cut off the attention. The incident was opolarizing that you had to pick a side. You either hated it or you loved it. I looked at Twitter, and I saw two guys having a conversation about me in Spanish. I was going to Google translate it, but I just decided to let it.

4. I'm lucky to hove detractors
You have to take a step back and
understand that you're playing
a game, and the people who say

disparaging things online and on television are trying to take you off that game. I've learned not to take it personally. You have to accept it and not have a negative attitude. I appreciate the critics because they're so passionate as fans.

5. It's not all black and white Race played a major part in how my behavior was perceived, but I think it went beyond that. Would the reaction have been the same if I were clean-cut, without the dreadlocks? Maybe if I looked more acceptable to conservatives, my rant would have been understood as passion.

8. The NFL olways wins a na controversial call or somebody loses it on camera, it's free advertising for the NFL. It's not just my name being talked about; it's the NFL too. That means more eyes on the Super Bowl, more clicks on NFLcom and potentially more sales of my jersey, for which I don't see a dollar. Even when the league is taking money out of my pockets with fines, it is constantly winning.

7. Anonymous isn't for me Last season I went to the Super Bowl in New Orleans by myself, took a video crew to Bourbon Street and asked fans who was the best lockdown corner in the game: Richard Sherman or Darrelle



The Seahawks'
cornerback
wonders: If he
looked more
acceptable to
conservatives,
would his
rant after

the NFC
championship
game have
been
understood
as passion?

fans, who were dedicated enough to go to the Super Bowl, didn't know who I was. You're anonymous until you put yourself out there or show up in a big game. I did both.

8. The violence takes o toll When

Revis? Most of these football

you play the game, you can't go very long without seeing a career or a season end on one play. Running into each other at full speed is not what God intended for our bodies. Everybody knows the NFL stands for Not For Long, and we each handle that pressure in our own way. You've got to appreciate every moment and treat it like it's your last. You stay locked in mentally. When you've watching that from the outside, somettimes you're going to see things you might not agree with.

9. Pete Corroll is a rock But I already knew that. After the win over the Niners, my coach sat me down and we talked about the things I could have handled better. He opened my eyes, Then we went about the week before Super Bowl week as if it were any other game. We didn't paint the Super Bowl logo on the practice field or anything like that. We stuck with the theme of the program: Every game is a championship opportunity. He's been preparing us for this moment so we won't even notice we're playing in the Super Bowl.



Want to hear more from Richard Sherman? Join the discussion on Twitter by using #SIPointAfter and following @RShermen_25 10. If I could turn bock the

clock. . Maybe I deserved that S7,875 fine [for taunting] under today's rules. But the NFL once allowed players to live in the moment and be entertainers. I may have been wrong in my gestures, but if I had to do it all again, I'd do some of the same things. It was a big moment, and it was how I felt at the time.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION ABOUT VIAGRA

Never take VIAGRA if you take any medicines with nitrates. This includes nitroglycerin. Your blood pressure could drop quickly. It could fall to an unsafe or life-threatening level.

ABOUT ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION (ED)

Erectile dysfunction means a man cannot get or keep an erection. Health problems, injury, or side effects of drugs may cause ED. The cause may not be known.

ABOUT VIAGRA

VIAGRA is used to treat ED in men. When you want to have sex, VIAGRA can help you get and keep an erection when you are sexually excited. You cannot get an erection just by taking the pill. Only your doctor can prescribe VIAGRA.

VIAGRA does not cure ED.

VIAGRA does not protect you or your partner from STDs (sexually transmitted diseases) or HIV. You will need to use a condom.

VIAGRA is not a hormone or an aphrodisiac.

WHO IS VIAGRA FOR?

Who should take VIAGRA?

Men who have ED and whose heart is healthy enough for sex.

Who should NOT take VIAGRA?

- · If you ever take medicines with nitrates:
 - . Medicines that treat chest pain (angina), such as nitroglycerin
- or isosorbide mononitrate or dinitrate · If you use some street drugs, such as "poppers" (amyl nitrate
- If you are allergic to anything in the VIAGRA tablet

BEFORE YOU START VIAGRA

Tell your doctor if you have or ever had:

- · Heart attack, abnormal heartbeats, or stroke
- · Heart problems, such as heart failure, chest pain, angina, or aortic valve narrowing
- · Low or high blood pressure
- Severe vision loss
- · An eye condition called retinitis pigmentosa Kidney or liver problems
- · Blood problems, such as sickle cell anemia or leukemia
- · A deformed penis, Peyronie's disease, or an erection that lasted more than 4 hours
- · Stomach ulcers or any kind of bleeding problems Tell your doctor about all your medicines. Include over-the-counter
- medicines, vitamins, and herbal products. Tell your doctor if you take or use:
- · Medicines called alpha-blockers to treat high blood pressure or prostate problems. Your blood pressure could suddenly get too low. You could get dizzy or faint. Your doctor may start you on a lower dose of VIAGRA
- · Medicines called protease inhibitors for HIV. Your doctor ma prescribe a 25 mg dose. Your doctor may limit VIAGRA to 25 mg in a 48-hour period.
- Other methods to cause erections. These include pills, injections, implants, or numps
- A medicine called REVATIO, VIAGRA should not be used with REVATIO as REVATIO contains sildenafil, the same medicine found in VIAGRA

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIAGRA

Side effects are mostly mild to moderate. They usually go away after a few hours. Some of these are more likely to happen with higher doses.

- The most common side effects are:
- Headache Feeling flushed
- · Upset stomach
- Less common side effects are:
- · Trouble telling blue and green apart or seeing a blue tinge on things · Eyes being more sensitive to light · Blurred vision
- Rarely, a small number of men taking VIAGRA have reported these serious events:
- Having an erection that lasts more than 4 hours. If the erection is not treated right away, long-term loss of potency could occur.
- . Sudden decrease or loss of sight in one or both eyes. We do not know if these events are caused by VIAGRA and medicines like it or caused by other factors. They may be caused by conditions like high blood pressure or diabetes. If you have sudden vision changes, stop using VIAGRA and all medicines like it. Call your doctor right away
- · Sudden decrease or loss of hearing. We do not know if these events are caused by VIAGRA and medicines like it or caused by other factors. If you have sudden hearing changes, stop using VIAGRA and all medicines like it. Call your doctor right away.
- Heart attack, stroke, irregular heartbeats, and death. We do not know whether these events are caused by VIAGRA or caused by other factors. Most of these happened in men who already had heart problems.
- If you have any of these problems, stop VIAGRA. Call your doctor right away

HOW TO TAKE VIAGRA

- · Take VIAGRA only the way your doctor tells you. VIAGRA comes in 25 mg, 50 mg, and 100 mg tablets. Your doctor will tell you how much to take.
- If you are over 65 or have serious liver or kidney problems, your doctor may start you at the lowest dose (25 mg).
- Take VIAGRA about I hour before you want to have sex VIAGRA starts to work in about 30 minutes when you are sexually excited. VIAGRA lasts up to 4 hours.

Don't:

- · Do not take VIAGRA more than once a day.
- Do not take more VIAGRA than your doctor tells you. If you think you need more VIAGRA, talk with your doctor.
- Do not start or stop any other medicines before checking with your doctor.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

- This is only a summary of important information. Ask your
- doctor or pharmacist for complete product information OR Go to www.viagra.com or call (888) 4-VIAGRA (484-2472).



Need help paying for your Pfizer medicines? Pfizer Helpful Answers[®] may be able to help, regardless of your insurance situation. Learn how at www.PHAHelps.com

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BACK DOWN

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So if you're like millions of men who have some degree of erectile dysfunction (ED). talk to your doctor. Ask about VIAGRA (sildenafil citrate), and see if America's most prescribed ED treatment is right for you. 20 million men already have.

For more information go to viagra.com or call 1-888-484-2472 (1-888-4VIAGRA).

THIS IS THE AGE OF TAKING ACTION, VIAGRA.

VIAGRA is prescription medication to treat erectile dysfunction (ED).

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION BELOW.

Do not take VIAGRA if you take nitrates, often prescribed for chest pain, as this may cause a sudden, unsafe drop in blood pressure.

Discuss your general health status with your doctor to ensure that you are healthy enough to engage in sexual activity. If you experience chest pain, nausea, or any other discomforts during sex, seek immediate medical help.

In the rare event of an erection lasting more than 4 hours, seek immediate medical help to avoid long-term injury.

If you are older than age 65, or have serious liver or kidney problems, your doctor may start you at the lowest dose (25 mg) of VIAGRA. If you are taking protease inhibitors, such as for the treatment of HIV, your doctor may recommend a 25-mg dose and may limit you to a maximum single dose of 25 mg of VIAGRA in a 48-hour period. If you have prostate problems or high blood pressure for which you take medicines called alpha blockers, your doctor may start you on a lower dose of VIAGRA

In rare instances, men taking PDE5 inhibitors (oral erectile dysfunction medicines, including VIAGRA) reported a sudden decrease or loss of vision or hearing. If you experience sudden decrease or loss of vision or hearing, stop taking PDE5 inhibitors, including VIAGRA, and call a doctor right away.

VIAGRA should not be used with other ED treatments. VIAGRA should not be used with REVATIO or other products containing sildenafil.

VIAGRA does not protect against sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV.

The most common side effects of VIAGRA are headache, facial flushing, and upset stomach. Less commonly, bluish vision, blurred vision, or sensitivity to light may briefly occur.

Please see Important Facts for VIAGRA on the following page or visit viagra.com for full prescribing information.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.FDA.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

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I have as pharmacy provider.

Pharmacist's Signature

 Serotonin Syndrome or Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome (NMS)-like reactions: Before using BELVIO, tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, especially medicines that treat depression. migraines, mental problems, or the common cold. These medicines may cause serious or lifethreatening side effects if taken with BELVIQ. Call your doctor right away if you experience agitation. hallucinations, confusion, or other changes in mental status; coordination problems; uncontrolled muscle spasms; muscle twitching; restlessness; racing or fast heartbeat; high or low blood pressure; sweating; fever; nausea; vomiting; diarrhea; or stiff muscles.

- · Valvular heart disease: Some people taking medicines like BELVIO have had heart valve problems. Call your doctor right away if you experience trouble breathing; swelling of the arms. legs, ankles, or feet; dizziness, fatique, or weakness that will not go away; or fast or irregular heartbeat. Before taking BELVIQ, tell your doctor if you have or have had heart problems.
- Changes in attention or memory: BELVIO may slow your thinking. You should not drive a car or operate heavy equipment until you know how BELVIO affects you.
- · Mental problems: Taking too much BELVIQ may cause hallucinations, a feeling of being high or in a very good mood, or feelings of standing outside your body.
- Depression or thoughts of suicide: Call your doctor right away if you notice any mental changes,

doctor if your breasts begin to make milk of a milky fluid, or if you are a male and your breasts increase

- Most common side effects in patients without diabetes: Headache, dizziness, fatique, nausea, dry
- mouth, and constipation. Most common side effects in patients with diabetes: Low blood sugar, headache, back pain, cough, and fatique.
- · Nursing: BELVIQ should not be taken while breastfeeding.
- · Drug interactions: Before taking BELVIO, tell your doctor if you take medicines for depression. migraines, or other medical conditions, such as: triptans; medicines used to treat mood, anxiety. psychotic or thought disorders, including tricyclics, lithium, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors. selective serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors, monoamine oxidase inhibitors, or antipsychotics; cabergoline; linezolid (an antibiotic); tramadol; dextromethorphan (an over-the-counter (OTC) common cold/cough medicine); OTC supplements such as tryptophan or St. John's Wort; or erectile dysfunction medicines.
- BELVIQ is a federally controlled substance (CIV) because it may be abused or lead to drug dependence.

For more information about BELVIO®, talk to your doctor and see the Patient Information on the reverse side.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/ medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

BELV1125 10/13



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You could be carrying more than just extra weight.

In FDA clinical trials, people who added BELVIQ® to diet and exercise were able to lose weight as well as improve certain health risk factors¹, such as high blood pressure, high blood sugar, and high cholesterol levels.

FDA-APPROVED FOR WEIGHT LOSS



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OR CALL 1-855-BELVIQ1 (1-855-235-8471) TO GET A

Power Over PortionTM 15-DAY FREE[‡] TRIAL

PROMO CODE: SI

1BELVIQ was evaluated in three clinical studies involving overweight adults (with at least one weight-related medical condition) and obese adults. All three studies compared people taking BELVIQ plus diet and exercise to people using diet and exercise alone (placebo). The results of the first two studies (involving 1900 people withbout diabetes) showed that 471% of people taking BELVIQ also had significant to last 5% or more of their body weight, compared with 12,6% of the placebo group. People taking BELVIQ also had significant improvements in their blood pressure and cholesterol levels. A third clinical study (involving 604 overweight; people with type 2 cliabetes) showed that 375% of people taking BELVIQ lost 5% or more of their body megnated with 15,6% or people taking BELVIQ also had significant improvements in their blood sugar levels. Nearly half of all participants completed the first two studies, nearly two-chirds of the parcipionats completed the third studies, nearly two-chirds of the participants completed the third studies, nearly two-chirds of the participants completed the third studies, nearly two-chirds of the participants completed the third studies.

‡Restrictions apply.